

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**PUBLIC DOCUMENTS**

OF THE

**STATE OF MAINE**

BEING THE

**REPORTS**

OF THE VARIOUS

**PUBLIC OFFICERS  
DEPARTMENTS AND  
INSTITUTIONS**

FOR THE TWO YEARS

**JULY 1, 1930 - JUNE 30, 1932**

AGRICULTURE OF MAINE

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TWENTY-FIFTH REPORT

OF THE

Commissioner of Agriculture

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

July 1, 1930 to July 1, 1932





APPLE, SEED, DAIRY AND FLOWER SHOW  
Lewiston Armory, Lewiston, Maine



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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*To His Excellency, Wm. Tudor Gardiner, Governor of Maine,  
and Council:*

Herewith is submitted, as provided by law, a brief report  
of recent activities of the Maine Department of Agriculture.  
The period covered is July 1st, 1930 to July 1st, 1932.

Respectfully submitted,

F. P. WASHBURN,

*Commissioner.*

Augusta, Maine, July 1, 1932.

## MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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*Commissioner*  
*Deputy Commissioner*

F. P. Washburn, Augusta  
*Vacant*

### Staff

*Chief, Division of Inspection,*  
*Chief, Division of Plant Industry,*  
*Chief, Division of Animal Industry,*  
*Chief, Division of Markets,*  
*Assistant, Division of Markets,*  
*Dairy Inspector,*  
*Assistant Dairy Inspector,*  
*Assistant Dairy Inspector,*  
*Sheep Specialist,*  
*Horticulturist*  
*Deputy Sealer of Weights and Measures,*  
*Field Agent, Gypsy Moth Work,*  
*Field Agent, Seed Certification,*

A. M. G. Soule, Augusta  
E. L. Newdick, Augusta  
H. M. Tucker, Yarmouth  
C. M. White, Augusta  
George H. Chick, Monmouth  
Clayton P. Osgood, Fryeburg  
Gordon W. Drew, Pittston  
Ernest F. Gilpatrick, Danforth  
C. H. Crawford, Dexter  
Stanley L. Painter, Orono  
John H. Austin, So. Berwick  
M. H. McIntire, So. Berwick  
C. A. Stetson, Caribou

### Chief Clerk

Dorothy M. Lippincott,

Augusta

### Clerks and Stenographers

Blanche E. Yeaton,  
Ethel Quinn,  
Viola R. Martin,  
Margaret Cole,  
Doris E. Cram,  
Gertrude H. Grimes,  
Rhea R. Woodman,  
Geneva H. Williams,

Augusta  
Hallowell  
Augusta  
West Gardiner  
Litchfield  
Chelsea  
Augusta  
Augusta



## Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture

In presenting this report we may repeat an explanation made in 1930, to the effect that it is in keeping with the policy of the Department that printing costs be reduced to a minimum and that the funds so released be allocated to service and assistance of farmers and citizens in general, whose welfare and accommodation may in any degree, depend upon our functions. Obviously any attempt to set forth the constantly increasing and ramifying activities of a State Department, which, every year, touches the daily living of practically 100% of our citizenry, is impossible within the scope of this publication. The Department does, however, publish seasonable reports and reviews and the news press of our State has always generously accorded space for presentation of current information on agricultural and regulatory topics.

The biennium, just passed, has brought problems and changes to the followers of agriculture in Maine, not before met in the experience of most. In common with all workmen, manufacturers and business men, (and the successful farmer of today must be placed with each of these) he has seen profits disappear, purchasing power diminish and future prospects grow dim. Our farmers are, however, unwilling to accept defeat. Because of their conservative practices and distrust of great credit operations, they have not suffered as severely as have those of other sections of the Country. The spirit and the faith that had brought their fathers through other reverses and panics, has led them, not to complain or clamor for governmental charity, but to rebuild their industry, seek new outlets for their labor and intelligence and to set up quality campaigns which will yet win for them a profitable situation in the structure of American Agriculture.

A greater and more intelligent diversification and a determination to go after the markets of the east, on a quality basis, are the important developments of the two years program, and these are being forwarded at all points by the Ex-

tension Service of the College of Agriculture and by the State Department of Agriculture.

Potatoes continue as our first staple product, with 45,000,000 bushels grown in the State for 1930 and 51,000,000 in 1931. Prices have generally ruled low and for the past shipping season, reached a level which meant calamity to producers. In comparison with other commodities and taking into consideration all factors of supply and comparative food values, the extreme low prices of the winter and spring of 1932, were unwarranted. It is doubtful, too, if the appearance of the great chain store system, the "Atlantic and Pacific," as a prominent agency in the handling of the Maine potato crop, with its apparent policy of using our product as a "leader" with over stimulation of the market at times, and consequent deflation at others, has been of any benefit. The past season has witnessed the firm establishment of water transportation as a means of movement of potatoes from Maine ports, and approximately 13,000 cars were reshipped from Searsport, Maine alone, in 1931.

Our New England dairy markets were so overshadowed in the later months of 1931, with price cutting practices and threats of further reductions and losses, as to draw attention of all business interests and public officials. Our Governor and the Executive Council have given the situation much thought and joined in the setting up of what is known as the "New England Governors' Dairy Advisory Board," which, while its harmonizing of the various warring interests is only temporary, has undoubtedly saved our dairy farmers from losses even more serious.

The canning interests of the State feel, particularly, the competition of other sections but are making heroic efforts to meet this with the best weapon at their command, a uniform guaranteed quality product. The effect of this campaign, which has been sustained by this Department, as is in relation to some commodities, provided by Statute, will be felt, to our advantage, as the years go on.

Under present day conditions the outlook for our Agricultural Fairs and Societies, appears to be a matter of some concern. In 1930 the State gave financial aid to forty Societies

and in 1931 to thirty-nine. This number seems beyond the present ability of our Fair going public to adequately support, and financial disaster looms ahead for some. Many of these are very old Societies with long records of helpful service to Maine and its agriculture. The assistance of the State has been generous, yet, in some cases, we appear to be supporting a lost cause.

The campaign against the European Corn Borer is an activity not touched upon in any other section of this report. The Department has recommended reduced appropriations for this work in the hope that the ravages of the insect, which are seriously menacing other sections of the Country, might not be further extended in Maine. We must acknowledge, however, that recent scoutings and the reports of the Bureau of Entomology of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, do not support this thought. We may also mention the warnings of Federal officials, that another dangerous insect, the Japanese Beetle, is advancing upon Maine, and while the Department hesitates in advocating any new insect control measures, yet reports and complaints of this new danger are coming from interested property owners in many sections.

While present conditions prevail and when farmers, as well as all others, are looking eagerly to points where governmental expenses may be reduced, it is timely to devote brief space to a discussion of departmental finances. Members of the staff of this Department take pride in the fact that in the face of constantly increasing demands for service and ever broadening laws for the encouragement of agriculture, the cost to the tax payers of maintaining the Maine Department of Agriculture, has not materially advanced over a period of ten years. The exact totals of all appropriations is here presented:

Fiscal year,	1923-1924;	\$211,860.28
	1924-1925;	211,860.28
	1925-1926;	219,360.26
	1926-1927;	219,360.26
	1927-1928;	219,880.49
	1928-1929;	219,880.49

1929-1930;	218,720.56
1930-1931;	218,720.56
1931-1932;	217,502.24
1932-1933;	216,572.36

During this period many new duties have been assigned by Statute to the Department, but these are largely of a self supporting nature and depend for financial support upon fees and licenses collected from those directly benefited. The Department absorbs the overhead and collects the cost of field operation. Seed potato growers demand certification for some 10,000 acres of product annually, and even in their present distressed circumstances, return the cost thereof to the State Treasury. In 1930, 1,363,000 cases of sardines were inspected by Department officials and in 1931, 861,000, for which the canners paid 1c per case, with a factory registration fee added. Blueberry factory inspection is self supporting as is shipping point inspection of table stock potatoes and apples. In all fairness the cost of these lines of service should not be charged to the expenses of the Department, since they are borne by the interests involved.

For the support of the Governor and Council, for long continued and sympathetic cooperation of the Extension Service and Experiment Station Workers, for our cordial contacts with Granges, Service Clubs, and other organizations, the Department workers are grateful and acknowledge an ever extending obligation. At a time when good citizens everywhere look with reasonable doubt upon all government agencies and expenditures, it has been a pleasure to join hands with these Grange, Extension and Agricultural Society workers, in a sincere, unselfish effort for better Maine Agriculture.

## Report of the Chief, Division of Inspection

*To the Hon. Frank P. Washburn, Commissioner of Agriculture:*

I respectfully submit herewith my report covering the work of the Division of Inspection from July, 1930 to July, 1932.

The work of this Division has consisted in the enforcement of the laws regulating the sale of agricultural seeds, commercial feedingstuffs, commercial fertilizer, drugs, foods, fungicides and insecticides; the enforcement of the weights and measures law, and the regulating, grading and packing of apples.

Prominent in the work of the Division, along with other added activities arising from new Statutes, has been the placing of a definite supervision and inspection of sardine factories, with the Department.

### Seed Inspection

The results of the analyses of the samples collected by inspectors together with samples from dealers may be found in Official Inspections No. 142.

	1931	1932
Number of samples collected.....	228	219
Hearings arranged .....	2	0

### Feedingstuffs Inspection

The following table briefly outlines the scope of the work with feedingstuffs:

	1931	1932
Number of samples drawn from Nov. 1930 to Apr. 1931.....	679	
Number of samples drawn from Sept. 1931 to July, 1932.....		1055
Number of brands registered.....	1083	1061
Number of hearings arranged.....	131	106

The results of analyses of the samples taken may be found in Official Inspections No. 140.

### Fertilizer Inspection

In 1931 and 1932, samples of practically every registered brand of fertilizer were collected and analyzed, endeavor being made to obtain as many samples as possible from the farmers having fertilizer on hand.

The following table briefly outlines what was accomplished:

	1931	1932
Brands registered.....	336	346
Samples collected.....	419	429
Number of hearings arranged.....	27	42

The results of the analyses of the samples collected may be found in Official Inspections No. 141.

### Fungicide and Insecticide Inspection

The fungicides and insecticides most generally employed for repelling and mitigating the attack of insect pests have been collected and analyzed.

The table below briefly outlines the scope of this work:

	1931	1932
Number of brands registered.....	265	290
Number of samples collected.....	82	87
Number of hearings arranged.....	12	18

The results of analyses of samples may be found in Official Inspections No. 142.

### Food Inspection

The work of food inspection has been conducted as usual by the collection of samples, by hearings and by visiting and inspecting hotels, restaurants, grocery stores, markets, bottling establishments, canning plants and all places where food is manufactured or offered for sale.

### Drug Inspection

The inspection of drug stores and the collection of samples has been carried on in the usual manner by an inspector who is a registered druggist.

The results of the analyses of the samples of foods and drugs collected have been published in Official Inspection No. 139.

### Special Activities

Such duties as authorizing supervision and inspection of sardine factories, inspection of clam flats, beds and shucking houses, blueberry factory inspection and field work, have been attended to.

In all this work of special endeavor there has been a definite system of collaboration with Federal officials, which has been very helpful, and of decided advantage in the accomplishment of inspection work.

In conclusion, please accept my thanks for your advice, and wise counsel in the administration of the affairs assigned me.

Respectfully submitted,

A. M. G. SOULE,

*Chief, Division of Inspection*

## Report of the Deputy Sealer of Weights and Measures

*To the Hon. Frank P. Washburn, Commissioner of Agriculture:*

As State Deputy Sealer, I herewith submit to you a report of the work done in this Bureau covering the period from July 1, 1930 to July 1, 1932.

This work covers a number of activities, testing of new equipment, purchased by the various towns for the use of their local sealers; visiting the local sealers and assisting them in their work; re-weighing package goods; testing heavy duty scales, oil pumps, bottles, and gasoline pumps.

There are approximately 15,000 gasoline pumps in our State, and during the summer months, I personally tested 1,442 pumps, and while a few were condemned, the others were within the tolerance allowed. I also tested heavy duty scales in practically every County in the State. Many were condemned, but for the most part they were within the allowed tolerance. I accompanied James G. McCarty, Engineering Inspector, U. S. Bureau of Standards, in testing track scales throughout the State, using a 40,000 pound test car and a 60,000 pound test car owned by the Bureau of Standards.

The Statutes provide that every five years city and town standards must be verified by the State standards. During this period a number of cities and towns submitted their equipment. I am glad to report that more new equipment has been purchased during this period than in previous years, which has been verified and tested at this office.

No new laws were added during the Legislature of 1931.

At the annual State Sealers' Conventions, held in Portland in 1930 and held in Augusta in 1931, which were largely attended, I found that more interest was shown by the members of this Association in weights and measures work than in the past. At the meeting of 1931, I was elected Vice President of the organization.

A summary of the work done by the local sealers is hereby appended.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. AUSTIN,

*State Deputy Sealer of Weights and Measures*



STATE REPORT OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES FOR THE YEAR 1930

COUNTIES	NUMBER TESTED AND SEALED											NUMBER CONDEMNED													
	Scales	Weights	Dry Measures	Liquid Measures	Yard Sticks	Gasoline Pumps	Milk Jars	Kerosene Pumps	Molasses Pumps	Taxi Meters	Measuresgraphs	Vehicle Tanks	Scales	Weights	Dry Measures	Liquid Measures	Yard Sticks	Gasoline Pumps	Milk Jars	Kerosene Pumps	Molasses Pumps	Taxi Meters	Measuresgraphs	Vehicle Tanks	
Androscoggin .....	1142	1233	8	229	12	582	6	383	31	0	0	0	4	5	0	0	0	16	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
Aroostook .....	1220	758	12	247	76	529	696	249	61	0	0	0	16	9	0	3	0	7	0	1	15	0	0	0	0
Cumberland .....	3658	2472	88	1694	205	1392	1115	316	37	66	32	8	259	6	0	10	6	98	2	10	1	2	1	0	0
Franklin .....	350	332	19	104	13	211	0	49	20	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hancock .....	633	582	19	351	57	286	1027	113	29	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kennebec .....	1518	1597	307	512	95	620	0	129	49	0	18	0	53	98	0	28	0	31	0	1	4	0	2	0	0
Knox .....	807	1584	15	1498	62	301	2377	141	41	0	0	5	5	27	1	20	1	2	10	0	2	0	0	0	0
Lincoln .....	392	613	8	138	19	155	1262	112	13	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oxford .....	930	388	33	98	30	468	56	96	24	0	1	0	3	3	0	0	0	13	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Penobscot .....	1044	1120	107	337	75	704	6121	299	63	0	0	7	22	9	2	0	5	17	7	6	1	0	0	0	0
Piscataquis .....	331	520	28	137	35	166	5	47	15	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sagadahoc .....	425	456	0	76	3	187	0	31	3	0	0	0	1	8	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Somerset .....	525	328	10	194	26	370	0	89	9	0	1	9	25	21	0	5	2	46	0	8	0	0	0	0	1
Waldo .....	480	999	44	254	17	194	0	111	89	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washington .....	563	672	39	251	27	225	790	110	36	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
York .....	982	448	62	246	25	535	2134	229	31	0	4	1	63	5	0	2	0	41	0	5	2	0	0	0	0
Total .....	15000	14102	799	6366	777	6925	15589	2504	551	66	58	30	463	191	5	72	14	283	19	40	25	2	3	1	

STATE REPORT OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES FOR THE YEAR 1931

COUNTIES	NUMBER TESTED AND SEALED											NUMBER CONDEMNED													
	Scales	Weights	Dry Measures	Liquid Measures	Yard Sticks	Gasoline Pumps	Milk Jars	Kerosene Pumps	Molasses Pumps	Taxi Meters	Measuresgraphs	Vehicle Tanks	Scales	Weights	Dry Measures	Liquid Measures	Yard Sticks	Gasoline Pumps	Milk Jars	Kerosene Pumps	Molasses Pumps	Taxi Meters	Measuresgraphs	Vehicle Tanks	
Androscoggin.....	1027	1045	21	461	17	582	0	611	30	0	3	3	24	10	2	11	0	5	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
Aroostook.....	1591	1325	25	427	89	641	505	222	47	0	0	1	23	13	2	1	0	14	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cumberland.....	3672	1267	152	1467	199	1601	1182	311	38	101	26	11	160	3	3	8	2	97	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
Franklin.....	398	306	17	116	7	254	15	64	15	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hancock.....	711	404	31	287	52	390	668	134	31	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kennebec.....	1751	1636	115	646	198	884	0	234	60	0	16	4	34	41	18	25	21	30	0	5	2	0	0	0	0
Knox.....	861	1064	15	1422	80	330	1646	132	35	0	0	5	6	11	0	15	0	5	20	1	2	0	0	0	0
Lincoln.....	458	814	7	340	37	189	1265	144	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oxford.....	835	274	13	88	52	420	54	105	16	0	1	4	16	9	0	0	19	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Penobscot.....	1280	1358	88	326	49	803	5717	225	50	10	1	19	11	23	2	1	0	16	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Piscataquis.....	348	393	12	87	43	167	6	51	10	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sagadahoc.....	408	189	0	42	6	188	0	30	2	0	0	2	3	14	0	12	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Somerset.....	514	346	14	108	29	43	0	48	3	0	0	4	22	23	0	0	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Waldo.....	481	861	5	193	17	228	1	114	84	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washington.....	660	595	36	262	33	284	560	112	52	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
York.....	1366	612	37	752	39	778	5343	216	51	0	1	2	64	14	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total.....	16361	12489	588	7024	7971	15753	16962	2753	547	112	48	55	377	164	27	73	24	234	24	19	5	0	1	0	0

## Biennial Report, Division of Plant Industry

*Hon. Frank P. Washburn, Commissioner of Agriculture.*

The following is a summary of the activities of the Division of Plant Industry covering the period from July 1, 1930 to July 1, 1932.

### Seed Certification

In 1930, 9,370 acres of potatoes passed the field inspection required by this Department. Out of this acreage there was shipped 518,819 barrels. In 1931, 14,204 acres passed inspection and 700,923 barrels were shipped. This past season was successful from the standpoint of number of sales but was one of the most disastrous in the history of our industry as far as price is concerned. Many barrels of first-class seed stock were sold for less than 80c per 165 lb. sack which included the cost of tags. The large volume of business enabled the Department to do the work cheaper than it had been done in previous years. A shipping fee of only 3c per bbl. netted sufficient income to carry on the work. The number of entries already received indicate less interest in certified seed due probably to the unsuccessful season through which we have just passed.

In connection with the certification work, it seems necessary to again mention the fact that the outstanding problem is the existing need of more and better foundation seed stock. It is our understanding that the Agricultural Experiment Station has a full time man in the field now who is working on this problem and that some progress has been made to date. As pioneers in this field of growing foundation stock, Bean & Allen of Presque Isle, have recently cleared several acres of land in Masardis and this year they have planted fifty acres of tuber unit Green Mountains. Just how this project will work out, time alone can tell.

Since our last report there has been no changes in the personnel of our inspection force. The work is still being handled

by men of many years' experience. The recent organization of a cooperative society offers new hope that something may be done in the way of advertising Maine Certified Seed potatoes. It will take a group some little time to accomplish this, but the fact that there is an organization lends some hope for a properly conducted campaign to put our seed before the trade. As a Department contribution to advertising Maine seed stock, the entire Department exhibit at the eastern states Exhibition in the fall of 1930 was devoted to Maine potatoes; more especially Certified Seed. A representative from the Department has visited Virginia, New York, and New Jersey this present month to find out whether or not the growers were pleased with the seed which they were receiving. It is a fair statement that most of the seed on the eastern shore of Virginia and on Long Island is bought in Maine. For the most part it has given satisfaction. This year there has been more seed sold in New Jersey than for many years and it looks as though Maine would again take its place in the Jersey market.

It is true that owing to the extremely low price, some of our competitors have not been able to get in to the eastern markets. The tariff has proven itself of value not so much in giving us a good price but in keeping us from getting a poorer one. The potato industry, looking at it from the National standpoint, seems to be in the same position as many other industries. Should there be another year of prices similar to these there will be a call for adjustment all along the line. This Department, up to this time, has always refused to take part in a program looking toward acreage control, believing it to be basely unsound. Continued financial losses, however, may force an acreage control program upon the Country. It is possible that the "survival of the fittest" will take care of this situation.

### **Insect Control Work**

As predicted in our 1930 report, the Brown Tail Moth has increased in considerable numbers as have all other forms of insect life especially during this present spring. The painting of Gipsy Moth egg clusters has been carried on in places that

were hard to reach with spraying equipment. The calls made upon the Department for the three power spraying outfits which it owns, has been more than could possibly be handled. The usual cooperative agreements with towns have been made and the work done in those towns which seemed to be the most badly infested with insect pests.

We have several letters on file in our office commending the Department for its help in handling insect problems in many of the towns and the policy of assisting towns will be maintained.

The Department, for several years, has been the only agency which had machines of sufficient power to spray the trees along the public ways. Commercial agencies are now taking their place with more and better equipment and for the first time the Department received some criticism in that it was taking work from private concerns. There is no intention to do this and work will only be attempted where it is believed that insect pests are present in sufficient numbers so that it becomes necessary for the State to prevent a spread into new territory.

In addition to the Gipsy and Brown Tail Moth the Satin Moth has been reported each spring in large numbers from various sections of the State. The usual amount of parasite work has been done in cooperation with the Federal Laboratory at Melrose Highlands, Mass. The *Anastatus Disparis* parasite has been the one liberated in largest numbers. Recoveries have been made from time to time to test the efficiency of the parasite work.

In closing this insect section, a fair statement would be that anyone with proper spraying equipment or who has access to the same, need not be disturbed by any insect infestation which may occur, but there are many municipalities and many individual property owners who do not have equipment. The policy of the State will be to help the municipalities in controlling infestations on the roadsides, going on to private property only when the situation seems to demand that the State step in. Otherwise, the private individual will have to work with a commercial concern or his neighbor who may have a spraying outfit.

### Other Activities

There are four members of the Division of Plant Industry who have taken part in speaking programs before Granges and different organizations. One of our members spoke at more than fifty grange meetings each of the years covered by this report; this in addition to his other work.

The annual meeting of the Pomological Society, the Seed Improvement Association and the Dairyman's Association requires about a week's work on the part of several of our men. The Eastern States Exposition at Springfield is another exhibit to which we are glad to contribute support.

I have personally appraised forty-three farms this past year for the Maine Farm Lands Loan Commission. The expense of this has been borne by the Department and has, I believe, been a worthwhile project from the farmers' standpoint.

Please accept my thanks for the support which you have given me during this period. Our relations with all other agricultural agencies have been very pleasant and we take this opportunity to express our thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

E. L. NEWDICK,

*Chief of Division*

## Report of the Bureau of Horticulture

*To E. L. Newdick, Chief, Division of Plant Industry:*

I herewith submit my report for the Bureau of Horticulture covering the period from July 1st, 1931 to July 1st, 1932. In view of the fact that I did not come into office until June, 1931, this report covers a one year period rather than two years.

We have attempted to cooperate with the Extension Service in the matter of encouraging the planting of young orchards of proper varieties. The annual apple tree pool was conducted as usual, securing 20,235 trees for the fruit growers.

We also cooperated in a drive for the control of the apple Fruit Fly (apple maggot).

The Western Maine Fruit Growers Convention was conducted by this Bureau in Auburn January 28 and 29. Over 300 orchardists were in attendance.

We have made 500 inspections of nurseries and greenhouses the past year; the greenhouse inspection being an added service to the growers.

We have tried to render every possible assistance to our nurserymen in giving them the most up-to-date information concerning the quarantine regulations of other States. We have always given any special inspections necessary to enable them to meet these regulations.

Assistance was rendered the Fish and Game Department in estimating damage to orchards by deer and partridge.

Hundreds of insect and disease troubles were identified and proper treatment prescribed to those who have sent samples or requested aid.

Many calls have been received for beautifying the home grounds and parks. Illustrated lectures were given upon this subject; and rough plans drawn when requested.

The State Horticulturist and his assistant continually gave lectures at Granges during the winter months.

Although we do not have a bee expert, we answered all calls and carried assistance to those who were having trouble.

Respectfully submitted,

STANLEY L. PAINTER,

*State Horticulturist*

## Report of Division of Animal Husbandry

*To Hon. Frank P. Washburn, Commissioner of Agriculture:*

I herewith present my report for the two year period from July 1st, 1930 to July 1st, 1932. The reports of the dairy bureau by C. P. Osgood, Dairy Inspector, and of C. H. Crawford, Sheep Specialist, are appended.

The State of Maine has been very fortunate regarding contagious diseases of domestic animals. We are now reaping the benefits of the careful, persistent, and thorough work that has been done in years past toward their control and eradication.

### **Bovine Tuberculosis**

Because of the fact that this disease is so well under control and the whole State has been a modified, accredited area since May, 1929, the Federal Bureau has reduced its force of three veterinarians to two, and one of the three state veterinarians, on account of sickness, has been employed only on a half-time basis, so the number of cattle tested the past year is somewhat under the total of former years.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931 there were tested 86,131 head of cattle, and 230 reactors were found, or twenty-seven hundredths of one per cent. This is the lowest percentage of tuberculosis reactors ever found in any northeastern State. Prior to this year's work the previous year with forty-two hundredths of one per cent was the record.

The past year ending June 30, 1932, does not present as good a picture because York County was retested and it is generally known that York County has been our most badly infested area. Soon after commencing work in this county the past year, it was decided, on account of the number of reactors found, to make a hundred per cent test. As a result of this test there were 17,962 cattle tested with 164 reacting, or ninety-one hundredths of one percent. All the stables where reactors were found have been carefully cleaned and disinfected and the herds have been given retests in from thirty to sixty days until they passed clean tests, so we believe the next check over in 1935 will yield a very much smaller percentage of reactors.

As a result of the total test work for the past year there were 69,693 cattle tested, and 367 reacted, or fifty-three hundredths of one per cent.

### **Glanders**

There does not seem to be cause to worry in respect to this disease. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, five horses were reported to this office as suspects. These were



investigated and the mallein test applied but none reacted. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1932, two suspected cases were reported. These were tested and both proved negative.

### **Hog Cholera**

This disease is well under control. No increase has been reported except in Aroostook County where three outbreaks of considerable importance in new territory have been reported. Infected herds and garbage fed hogs must be immunized with the simultaneous serum and virus treatment to guard against loss from this disease, and hog raisers realizing this fact are protecting themselves in nearly all cases.

### **Bovine Contagious Abortion or Bang's Disease**

This disease has been present among the cattle in this State for many years. It is a disease that is hard to eradicate to that extent where all animals will show negative to the agglutination test, unless quite drastic measures are taken to segregate all reactors. If this test is not used as a basis of determination the owner is bound to be deceived, as an animal that has once aborted nearly always becomes immune herself and will carry her calf each year full time and yet will be carrying the disease in her blood. This oftentimes creates false hopes in the mind of the owner and causes disappointment when other animals in the herd, and especially the heifers freshening for the first time, will continue to drop premature calves.

Commencing in July, 1930 this Division of the Department of Agriculture took up cooperative work with herd owners in an effort to control and eradicate this disease. Rules and regulations were printed and distributed, and arrangements were made with the Diagnostic Laboratory connected with the State Department of Health here, to test blood samples for this disease. Under the provisions of these rules and regulations there were received and tested during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, 2,897 samples of blood, 2,418 of which showed negative results while 406 were positive and 73 suspicious, thus making 14% of the cattle reactors. During the

year ending June 30, 1932, 2,598 samples were received and tested, 2,287 of which were negative, and 42 suspicious or 10.4% reactors. At the present time there are 22 herd owners that have signed agreements placing their herds under the supervision of this Department and we have issued certificates of accreditation to five herd owners.

Following is a tabulated report of the work accomplished along the various lines supervised by this Division during the past two years.

July 1, 1930 to June 30, 1931

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Reactors</i>
Tested by cooperative men and accredited veterinarians.....	77,955	217
Tested for interstate shipment.....	8,176	13
Total number cattle tested and reacted.....	86,131	230
Percentage of reacting cattle.....		0.27%
Amount paid for condemned cattle.....		\$13,912.72
Amount received and turned into Treasury for salvage.....		\$3,676.96
Number of cattle brought in on permit from other states and Canada.....		811
Number of horses brought in on permit.....		2,880
Number of swine brought in on permit.....		5,550

July 1, 1931 to June 30, 1932

Tested by cooperative men and accredited veterinarians.....	61,684	366
Tested for interstate shipment.....	8,009	1
Total number cattle tested and reacted.....	69,693	367
Percentage of reacting cattle .....		0.53%
Amount paid for condemned cattle.....		\$18,308.67
Amount received and turned into Treasury for salvage .....		\$3,694.96
Number of cattle brought in on permit from other states and Canada.....		568
Number of horses brought in on permit.....		1,287
Number of swine brought in on permit .....		4,223

Respectfully submitted,

HERBERT M. TUCKER,

*Chief, Division of Animal Industry*

*To H. M. Tucker, Chief of the Division of Animal Industry:*

The following is a brief summary and report of the activities of the Bureau of Dairy Inspection for the two-year period ending June 30, 1932.

In general, the work of this Bureau as outlined by Statute, consists in the enforcement of the laws regulating the production, distribution and sale of milk, cream and other dairy products. More has been accomplished during the past two years in all lines of our work, as we have been fortunate in having another inspector added to our force.

I will now touch briefly upon each phase of our work.

All dairies supplying Maine's fluid milk market have been inspected several times during the last two years. Over six thousand inspections have been made. In addition to this, whenever it seemed necessary, reinspections have been made at periodic intervals in order that we might be satisfied that the milk and cream was being produced under sanitary conditions. With the competition as it has been and the price at a low level, not reached in many sections since 1900, it has been very difficult at times to keep up the high standard of quality of the milk. It is gratifying though, to report that there seems to be an ever-increasing interest taken in the quality of milk, not only by the public but by the producers themselves.

We have purchased for analysis, two thousand, six hundred and fifty samples of milk and cream. Ninety-six dealers have been sent letters, explaining that their milk was below the legal standard and suggestions were made for the improvement of their product, or a personal call was made. Fifty-two civil hearings have been held under the Pure Food Law for the sale of adulterated milk. As a result of an active campaign with the quality of cream sold in restaurants and lunch rooms, one hundred and four proprietors of these establishments were cited in for civil hearings. This work was carried on in cooperation with the Division of Inspection.

More attention has been given in the last two years to quality improvement work with the dealers of milk and cream in the larger districts. In this work, we have made thirty-five hundred Methylene Blue Reductase and Acidity tests on

producers' milk. The same samples were also tested for sediment. In conjunction with this work, approximately forty-five hundred samples of milk and cream including patrons' composite samples have been tested, or check-tested at all the creameries and milk plants in the State.

As usual, the local milk inspectors and health officers have been of a great help in carrying on my work and their cooperation is greatly appreciated.

I feel that I should not close this report without expressing my thanks and gratitude to Commissioner Washburn and Mr. Tucker for their advice during a period when the dairy industry is in a chaotic condition.

Respectfully,

C. P. OSGOOD,

*State Dairy Inspector*

*H. M. Tucker, Chief, Division Animal Industry:*

I herewith submit my report for the two year period ending June 30, 1932.

The sheep industry in Maine, while suffering the same discouraging elements that other agricultural industries have, has maintained its ratio of profit except when and where the owner has allowed the situation to discourage him to the point of neglect.

The wool market receded in 1931 to a discouraging point and a record low price in 1932 brought down the prices of sheep and their products to the lowest level for many years.

Most sheep farmers, however, feel that the products from sheep will be among the first to come back to normal demand and price, and are preparing to increase production by heavy culling of undesirables. Now is the time to make all necessary changes to build the flock to the highest point of production by purchasing as many young, well bred ewes as storage and pasturage can carry, while prices are low.

Selection of a purebred high-producing ram at the prevailing prices will bring the desired results at a small cost.

Old broken mouthed ewes should be destroyed, as they cannot produce even cost of maintenance.

The usual work of assisting sheep men in eradicating

parasitic diseases has been constantly kept up with much success, as in communities where demonstrations have been given, reports show the flocks to be much more thrifty, losses reduced and production increased.

Reports show a considerable number of beginners with small flocks, which shows good judgment, as observations prove that a large per cent of those beginning with small flocks remain in the business and gradually increase the number until full capacity is realized, while many who begin with large flocks and no experience do not continue. Too many people still cling to the old idea that sheep do not require much care and that most anything for feed will secure large profits, which is impossible.

Sheep like all farm animals thrive and produce in proportion to the consideration, care, and feed provided by their caretaker.

As manager of the Maine Sheep and Wool Growers' Association I have continued the project of marketing wool for the members. The volume of wool handled remains about the same each year, and prices paid members have been above those paid by wool buyers. Also, local buyers in communities where our locals operate, have maintained a higher level of prices than in other places, which indicates our influence and warrants further development in cooperative marketing.

My work as adjuster of claims for damage to sheep and other domestic animals has taken much more time than in the past as it is found that personal interest and investigation is more satisfactory to the claimants, as in cases of damage, advice and assistance in proper disinfecting and treatment assists in the recovery of animals bitten and torn.

We have made some progress in causing the destruction of sheep killing dogs, showing that in most communities the destruction of known sheep killing dogs has materially lessened, or entirely disappeared.

Doubtless if this line of work can continue, owners of dogs will eventually keep them on their own premises, much to the benefit and happiness of all concerned.

Respectfully yours,

C. H. CRAWFORD,

*State Sheep Specialist*

## Biennial Report, Division of Markets

*Hon. F. P. Washburn, Commissioner of Agriculture:*

A brief story of the work of the Division of Markets will cover the work accomplished during the last two years.

As, for several years the principal efforts have been directed toward better marketing practices for handling the farm products of the State, with special emphasis on better grading and standardization. It is a far cry from the early days of the organization of local potato exchanges in 1911 to the present methods used in obtaining recognition for Maine products in larger markets. The problem, however, was recognized very clearly at this period from the report of the Head of the Bureau of Markets in which he said "we must work towards the establishment and strict observance of grades." National standards for potatoes were definitely applied to the marketing of Maine potatoes in 1921 when shipping point inspection was first instituted as a strictly State service. The following year the U. S. D. A. cooperated in this movement and the practice of asking for inspection at shipping point in order to determine quality and condition has grown steadily until each year approximately 10% of the total carlot shipments of table stock, receive inspection. From the 1930 crop 5,457 carloads were inspected and from the 1931 crop 3,775. Low prices largely account for the reduced number of inspections during the season just closed and in view of the drastic readjustments in the level of all prices and wages it is self evident that similar adjustments must be made in the cost of this service to shippers. Already, plans have been worked out with the shippers so that with a guaranteed volume per week, specific reductions in the cost of inspections has been made. Thus far the cost of Federal supervision has shown a tendency to increase from year to year on a per car basis. The cost for this supervision has been as follows during the past five seasons. In 1927 36.4c; 1928 42.3c; 1929 32.4c; 1930 43.7c; while the 1931 figure showed a decided jump to 67.5c. Immediately on conclusion of the 1931:1932 shipping seasons negotiations were opened with the Federal Inspection Service

looking toward a scaling down of this cost which it is hoped may be brought about.

A report of the standardization work with potatoes would not be complete without mention of the Maine Potato Quality Study made possible for the Maine Development Commission. This work carried on in the larger markets as well as in the shipping sections of the State for two seasons makes it very plain that color, freedom from bruises and other defects and the general size of the tubers in different lots of potatoes are the factors having the greatest influence on the prices received. The Maine Agricultural Experiment Station is now pursuing further studies in the field and potato houses to determine if possible, where improvement may be secured in the handling of potatoes so as to avoid undue losses.

Each year sees a different development in the demonstrational and service work which the Division does. In the apple industry, the activities of the Department as a whole may be traced back to 1913 when the Legislature enacted Chapter 156 of the Public Laws which charged the Department of Agriculture with the enforcement of the apple packing and grading law. The work of the Department since that date, in seeking to better the apple industry of Maine, has passed through various stages of regulatory work, organization of several cooperative fruit growers associations, with whom grading and cost accounting work was done over a period of 4 years, up to the season of 1930 when foreign countries raised barriers against Maine and United States apples in the form of special export restrictions. To meet these restrictions it became necessary to cooperate with the Federal government in establishing an inspection service for all apples designated for export to Great Britain and Continental Europe, as well as in a minor degree to some South American countries. During the 1930 crop season 481 inspections were made and during the 1931 season which was a short crop only 95 certificates were issued. However, the service was both expensive and difficult to furnish on account of the large area from which the export shipments originated. It is a source of satisfaction, however, to know that during the time the export requirements have been in force not a single certificate issued under

these rules has been reversed. The cooperation of the Federal Bureau in this matter was most timely and for the scattering type of the work, the supervision was performed at a very fair cost. By interchanging men between the various Divisions it was necessary to employ only two or three extra men for the apple inspection work during this two year period.

The Division continues to issue a weekly price sheet to a mailing list averaging over a thousand farmers. This sheet contains timely information on the grain and feed market, including supply and prices. It also covers the price of commodities in the Boston market which are of interest to Maine farmers. This information is secured from many different sources and condensed so that the main points may be had without taking too much time for reading. Soon after this service was started nine years ago many requests were received for the prices paid farmers in the larger cities of the State. At that time it was impossible to render this service on account of the cost of securing competent reporters. However, early this spring it became apparent that the work could be done at a reasonable cost and the reports were started early in June, 1932. The comments so far have been very favorable for this feature of the market report. A brief summary of this market news sheet is prepared for broadcasting over WRDO in Augusta at 11:45 standard time every Thursday. What few comments have been received on this are favorable.

With the advent of better roads and an increasing tourist and vacation traffic over them, has come an increasing opportunity for direct dealing between producers and consumers, many farmers are availing themselves of this opportunity to dispose of their farm products. A survey was made in the summer of 1925 which resulted in a mimeographed report on the successful roadside stands in the State. Since that time the success of this method of selling farm products has brought about certain abuses which





usually accompany any successful venture and many farmers find themselves injured by the competition of dealers who purchase produce from distant areas and sell them from roadside stands as strictly fresh products. Naturally such practices disappoint the consumers and injure what might be a valuable outlet for strictly fresh home grown farm products. Acting in conjunction with the other New England States, a roadside stand sign has been developed using the New England Farm Marketing Program design as the prominent feature of the sign. Unquestionably this meets a real want of the farmers. For already with less than six weeks publicity on this move 14 of them have been leased for the present season.

In mentioning the New England Farm Marketing Program it should be noted that more of the New England Labels for identifying well graded products have been issued during the last year than in any one year since the movement started four years ago. Mr. Chick has carried out a great deal of this work as well as that connected with the list of farms for sale which the Department has maintained for the last 12 or 15 years. His time has also been occupied in the compilation of statistics and information relating to various agricultural matters. General statistical work has continued, the crop reports in connection with the U. S. D. A. and the other New England States including the annual crop and livestock review have become standard sources of information for many concerns and agencies. Other special information has been secured on the quantity of various dairy products sold from the farms of the State and the returns to producers. The annual blueberry pack is tabulated, including prices paid farmers, quantities purchased and number of cases packed. For the second time special tabulations of census information by individual townships have just been secured from the U. S. Census Bureau covering the 1930 census. This material becomes increasingly valuable as it is secured from succeeding census periods as it will be possible to determine what is happening to agriculture in the different towns of the State. Much has been said of the decadence of agriculture in different sections of the State but hitherto little definite information has been at hand on the

subject. The census reports by towns will furnish the needed information on these points. The usual list of potato shippers, poultry producers, farmers' unions and canners of farm products have been kept up to date for distribution to those desiring this information.

In carrying on the various activities of the Division the correspondence has necessarily been large, amounting to 3,757 first class letters during the two year period, exclusive of circular letters and other material mailed out. Nor does this figure include the correspondence carried on from the inspection office at Caribou where our Head Inspector, Mr. Palmer, and the Federal Supervisor, have been in direct charge of shipping point inspection work.

The miscellaneous work of the Division has included the mailing out of many bulletins and leaflets, furnishing information relative to marketing and other problems of agriculture.

Many exhibits have been arranged during the biennium, all designed to promote demand for Maine products or explain departmental activities in order that the citizens of the State might receive direct benefit thereby. Some of the more notable of these exhibits have been those at the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Massachusetts, which annually draws from 120,000 to 160,000 spectators. The exhibit of 1930 emphasized the magnitude and quality of the Maine Potato crop while that of 1931 brought out in graphic manner, the varied products of the Maine farm and the care with which these products are made available to the consumer. These exhibits are participated in by all Divisions of the Department. Other exhibits arranged by the Division of Markets included the U. C. T. Bangor Food Fair for both years, the Better Business Special Train which toured the middle west and south early in 1932, the Maine Central Livestock Train which conducted demonstration steps throughout central Maine and Aroostook County during August of 1930 and the same in 1931. Several other smaller exhibits were made, all designed to promote interest in better marketing practices and in consuming more Maine grown products.

The lecture work of the members of this Division for the period was slightly larger than for the preceeding two years

and numbered 95 different addresses with an attendance of 7,003 persons. This does not include various conferences with small groups called for consideration of special problems.

Thus briefly have I enumerated some of the principal activities of those connected with the Division of Markets. In addition to these there have been many occasional activities which have required more or less time as, for example, the appraisal of farms for the Maine Farm Lands Loan Commission which roughly has necessitated over 2,700 miles automobile travel in order to look over the 102 farms on which appraisals were requested. These appraisals require an average of one half day each. In like manner we have cooperated with the State Purchasing Department created under the new Administrative Code Act, and with members of the Extension Service of the University of Maine in conducting surveys of the Institutional Farms in order to talk over with the various farm managers, possible improvements in their farm management programs. This feature has taken over a weeks' time during the last six months and it is hoped that with the cooperative spirit so far shown on the part of the superintendents and farm managers that results will amply justify the extra time which is involved.

The work of the Division throughout the period covered by this report has been helped a great deal by the cooperation of other members of the Department, as well as the Maine Development Commission, the Extension Service at Orono and Doctor Griffee of the Experiment Station, for which we are very appreciative.

Respectfully submitted,

C. M. WHITE,

*Chief, Division of Markets*

## Report of the Maine State Pomological Society, 1929-1930

The 1930 Annual Meeting of the Maine State Pomological Society was held in Portland, Maine, November 18. The officers as elected at that meeting were as follows:

	<i>President</i>	
A. K. Gardner		Orono
	<i>Vice-President</i>	
F. C. Sturtevant		Hebron
H. W. Peck		Winthrop
	<i>Secretary</i>	
E. L. White		Bowdoinham
	<i>Treasurer</i>	
T. E. Chase		Buckfield

### *Executive Committee*

The President, First Vice-President,  
Secretary and Treasurer, ex-officio

R. F. Chandler, Jr.	Augusta
H. P. Sweetser	Cumberland Center
L. K. Lee	Dover-Foxcroft

Several reports were read and accepted by the Society, and an interesting talk given by W. H. Darrow, an orchardist of Putney, Vermont, on the different phases of orcharding, from soil management to packing and marketing of the fruit, questions being asked and answered.

The 1931 Annual Meeting was held in Caribou, Maine, November 10. The officers elected were:

	<i>President</i>	
A. K. Gardner		Orono
	<i>Vice-President</i>	
F. C. Sturtevant		Hebron
H. W. Peck		Winthrop
	<i>Secretary</i>	
E. L. White		Bowdoinham
	<i>Treasurer</i>	
T. E. Chase		Buckfield

*Executive Committee*

The President, First Vice-President,  
Secretary and Treasurer, ex-officio.

H. P. Sweetser	Cumberland Center
Stanley L. Painter	Augusta
L. K. Lee	Dover-Foxcroft

The Treasurer's report for 1931 showed receipts of \$3,081.77 with \$50.00 then due the Society from outside sources, for all purposes were \$2,433.66 and the permanent fund invested for the Society amounted to \$3,120.00.

Valuable papers were presented and addresses given at the meetings and Field Day. Copies of these addresses have been filed with the Commissioner of Agriculture and are available to any interested citizens. It should be understood that these papers presented by the Society will be printed for general distribution at the request of its officers.

E. L. WHITE,

*Secretary, Maine State Pomological Society*

## Report of the Maine Dairymen's Association 1930 and 1931

The 1930 annual meeting of the Maine Dairymen's Association was held in City Hall, Portland, November 20. The meeting was called to order by President C. E. Luce. The following officers were elected at the morning session: President C. E. Luce, Farmington; Vice-President, M. A. Clark, Wilton; Treasurer, C. M. White, Augusta; Secretary, H. M. Tucker, Augusta; member of the Executive Committee, H. J. Shaw, Sanford; visitor to College of Agriculture, L. E. McIntire, East Waterford; member of Experiment Station Council, J. W. Leland, Dover-Foxcroft; representatives to Federation of Agricultural Associations, E. B. Lord, East Lebanon and J. A. Ness, Auburn.

The treasurer reported receipts of \$40.00 from dues, making the total receipts for the year \$605.87. Disbursements

for all purposes were \$22.10. The permanent fund invested for all the Association amounted to \$583.77.

At the afternoon session, Dr. Owen Smith discussed a new method for the treatment of milk fever. Dr. John W. Gowen of the Rockefeller Institute and the University of Maine gave a very interesting report on the progress of the experiment being conducted at Highmoor Farm on the heredity of milk production. The afternoon program was concluded with the showing of a film entitled "Quality Milk" furnished by the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry.

The 1931 annual meeting of the Maine Dairymen's Association was held in the High School Auditorium, Caribou, November 10. The meeting was called to order by President C. E. Luce of Farmington. The following officers were elected at the morning session: President, M. A. Clark, Wilton; Vice-President, A. W. Doughty, Cumberland Center; Treasurer, C. M. White, Augusta; Secretary, H. M. Tucker, Augusta; member of the Executive Committee, H. J. Shaw, Sanford; visitor to College of Agriculture, L. E. McIntire, East Waterford; member of Experiment Station Council, J. W. Leland, Dover-Foxcroft; representatives to Federation of Agricultural Associations, E. B. Lord, East Lebanon and J. A. Ness of Auburn.

The treasurer's report showed receipts of \$645.90. Disbursements for all purposes were \$4.00. The permanent fund invested for all the Association amounted to \$641.90.

At the afternoon session, short talks were given by Prof. L. M. Dorsey of the College of Agriculture, and H. J. Shaw of Sanford, a dairyman and milk distributor of that town.

H. M. TUCKER,

*Secretary Maine Dairymen's Association*