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SENATE.

{ REPORT
No. 1072.

ESTABLISHMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION DEPARTMENTS.

DECEMBER 14, 1912.—Ordered to be printed.

U.S. Congress, Senate
Mr. SMITH of Georgia, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 22871.]

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 22871) to establish agricultural extension departments in connection with agricultural colleges in the several States receiving the benefits of an act of Congress approved July 2, 1862, and of acts supplementary thereto, having considered the same, beg to report it back to the Senate with one amendment and with the recommendation that the bill as amended do pass.

The object of the bill is to make provision for the establishment of extension departments in the land-grant agricultural colleges of each State and to carry to the farmers at their homes the knowledge gathered at the agricultural colleges and experiment stations.

Fifty years ago the Morrill Act became a law, and by aid from the appropriation which it made colleges of agriculture are now successfully conducted in every State.

Twenty-five years ago the Hatch bill became a law, and by aid from the appropriations which it made agricultural experiment stations are now successfully conducted in every State. Other legislation has also been enacted since the Morrill and Hatch Acts of further aid to the colleges and experiment stations.

The Morrill Act provides for the endowment and support of colleges, the leading object of which shall be "to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts." The Hatch Act provides for agricultural experiment stations where by investigation and experiment accurate knowledge is obtained upon farm problems.

The experiment stations were essential to proper instructions in the colleges. In most of the States these colleges and experiment stations have for years worked in close association. They have conducted investigations and made tests bearing upon many important

questions connected with the farm, and their investigations and tests have been especially with reference to conditions in their respective States. They have studied plants and determined with accuracy the foods upon which they live and mature crops. They have analyzed different classes of soil in their respective States to determine the plant food contained and have learned how to make it available. They have ascertained defects of soils and how to remove them. They have worked out the improvement of seeds and have found the way to resist many plant diseases. They have tested stock, cattle, and hog foods and diseases. They have found what foods will bring the best results and have advanced in the treatment of diseases.

I do not claim that the knowledge which has been obtained is absolutely accurate in all lines, but I insist that they have learned many things of great value to those engaged upon farms; and their officers are, as a rule, able and capable men, practical as well as scientific, and devoted to their work.

These institutions are now engaged in their best work and will continue to demonstrate new truths which would be most helpful if understood and used in the daily work of the farm.

There are students at these colleges who are obtaining much aid from the instructions which they receive, but there is no sufficient provision to carry to the farmers at their homes the valuable information which has been and will be obtained by the work of the colleges and experiment stations.

The last census shows that the rural population of the 48 States was 49,384,882. The majority of our population is engaged in agricultural pursuits. It is my urgent plea that they should receive as speedily as possible the help which the successful use of all that has been learned and may yet be learned at the agricultural colleges and experiment stations would be to them.

The National Government has spent on the agricultural colleges and experiment stations in round figures \$70,000,000. It spends now \$3,940,000 cash annually upon them. From State appropriations and other sources they receive annually \$11,000,000. A large part, however, of this last-named amount is required for new buildings and equipment required to meet the growing demands upon the colleges.

For the year ended June 30, 1912, Congress appropriated \$15,000,000 for carrying on the exclusively agricultural work of the Department of Agriculture. Much the larger portion of this money is spent for investigation and experimentation. Information of great value to the rural interests of the country is secured, but a comparatively small amount is devoted to showing those at work upon farms how to apply this information.

Dr. True, Director of the Office of Experiment Stations, has stated:

Heretofore interest in the agricultural development has largely been in the direction of securing new truths. A vast amount of valuable information is now in existence awaiting some effective means of getting it into operation by the farming people of the United States. It has been found that the mere publication of results in the bulletins and pamphlets is not sufficient, and that there is much even that these publications do not contain and can not be taught by them.

The agricultural colleges were created and organized chiefly for the benefit of agriculture. They have devoted themselves to perfecting their organization and courses of study for the education of their students and by means of experiment stations to

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the investigation and discovery of agricultural truths. Recently there have arisen demands upon these institutions for information and assistance outside of their classrooms by persons engaged in agriculture unable to attend these colleges as students. These demands became so insistent that at the meeting of the Association of Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations held at Portland, Oreg., in 1909, the association by formal action changed its constitution by recognizing the obligation of the colleges to the rural people outside of their halls as equal to the obligation of resident students and their work of research. Forty-five colleges, representing 43 States, were conducting extension work during the college year which closed June 30, 1911, but their work was limited by lack of sufficient funds.

We are confronted, therefore, with the fact that the National Government has spent, and is spending, large sums of money upon the agricultural colleges and the experiment stations. The money so spent has aroused interest in the States and they are appropriating to this work sums in excess of those appropriated by the National Government, but the inspiration for the work and the leadership in the work came from the national appropriation. These institutions are doing good, but much that they might do fails of accomplishment because there is no organized machinery backed by necessary funds to carry the information they gather to those actually engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The agricultural colleges, agencies in a sense of the National Government, are ready for immediate service at the home of the farmer. They are ready to furnish the information they have acquired to all upon the farms instead of to a few at the colleges. The bill which has passed the House is intended to enable them to increase their extension work at once and develop it in time upon a broad scale.

It is of vital importance to carry promptly to the farmers the knowledge acquired at these institutions.

A number of bills have been introduced during the past few years intended to accomplish this result. Last fall the executive committee of the State Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations, officers of the National Soil Fertility League, and representatives of the Agricultural Department prepared a bill which was introduced in the Senate on the 16th day of January and in the House of Representatives on the 17th day of the same month. The House of Representatives has passed this bill with only two important amendments. One requires that 75 per cent of the money appropriated shall be used in actual demonstration work, and the other provides that this bill shall not interfere with the demonstration work now being done by the Agricultural Department.

Many State legislatures will meet in January, and the passage of the House bill by the Senate at the earliest day possible is necessary to give them an opportunity to act.

The bill provides for the establishment and maintenance in each of the land-grant colleges of agriculture of an extension department to give instruction in agriculture and home economics to farmers at their homes.

This instruction is to be given by demonstration work and other means in the local farm communities.

It provides for a fixed appropriation from the Treasury of \$10,000 unconditionally to each State. It provides also an appropriation beginning with \$300,000 a year, July 1, 1913, to be prorated among the States on a basis of rural population. This appropriation is to be increased each year \$300,000 until the maximum of \$3,000,000 is

reached in 1923. No State is to receive a pro rata of this sum unless it provides an equal amount for the same purpose. The money is to be expended by the State colleges of agriculture through their extension departments in each State. Seventy-five per cent of the money must be used in actual field demonstration; 5 per cent may be used for printing and publications, and the remaining 20 per cent for instructions in household economics, or for further field demonstrations. The bill provides that any Federal money lost or misused must be made good by the State, and it prohibits the use of the money for purposes except those specified. It provides for reports from the colleges to the Secretary of Agriculture, and through the Secretary of Agriculture to Congress.

The bill permits the purchase of no land by the Government. The representatives of the colleges in the various communities in each county in each State will enlist farmers, who, under the direction of the representative of the agricultural college, will test the value on their own land of the information brought by the representative of the agricultural college. The farmer will be invited to plant under the direction of the representative of the college. The character of the soil will be tested, the nature of the fertilizer to be used explained, the selection of seed advised and the time of planting and manner of cultivation suggested, and demonstrations will be made which will teach and prove the value of the knowledge acquired at the colleges and stations. In another place the representative of the college will teach, and by experimentation demonstrate, the best manner for caring for fruit trees. In another, the best system for feeding cattle and stock and of dairying and butter making may be the subject of the demonstration.

Demonstrations will also be made in home economics and labor-saving machines.

The colleges of agriculture and the experiment stations in each State have devoted themselves to the study of the peculiar conditions of their State and the localities of their State and will, through their representatives, carry to the farmer in his home the accurate information which experimentation has demonstrated and in turn give a practical demonstration in the locality before the farmer and his neighbors of the value of the information acquired and how to use it. This class of work will be supplemented by printed discussions of the best mode of farming, of hygiene, and of household economics, and the means available will be used to give those on the farm all that research can develop which will be of service to them.

The value of such instruction is not a matter of experiment. It has been tried in other countries, as well as to a limited extent in our own. A number of European countries for the past 25 years have been carrying the information gathered in their colleges and experiment stations to the homes of the farmers. Detailed information as to how the extension departments in other countries have been conducted and the beneficial results from them has been gathered by the National Director of the Office of Experiment Stations.

We have selected Belgium as an example and have examined the statistics prepared by the Department of Agriculture showing the effect there of agricultural extension work upon the lines proposed for our country by the bill under consideration. They disclose an average increase of production per acre in 20 years of 30 per cent.

They also disclose a lessened cost of production per acre, and this splendid accomplishment is attributed to the information and instruction carried to the farmers by agricultural extension work.

The testimony before the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry and the House Committee on Agriculture furnishes convincing proof of the great benefits which have been accomplished by the limited work upon this line already carried on by the agencies created principally through congressional action.

Dr. Russell, dean of the college of agriculture of the University of Wisconsin, pointed out its value in the improvement of cattle and dairying in Wisconsin. Among other things, Dr. Russell said:

[The extension work is designated generally to take that work right to the man on the field, and it seems to me the advantageous feature of this bill is that it leaves it to the discretion of the agricultural college to organize this work along those lines that are going to be most effective for the community concerned.

He also pointed out a development of corn seed which in a portion of Wisconsin had enabled an increase of production per acre of over 50 bushels. He dwelt upon the necessity for soil diagnosis, and how at one point more phosphate was needed and at another more nitrogen and another more potash, and how for various crops portions of those necessary plant foods could be supplied and at other places other ingredients could be locally found, and he urged the importance of carrying accurate information upon this subject to the farmer at home, and he showed the work he was doing endeavoring to give such information to the farmers of Wisconsin.

Dr. Russell relates this incident, told him by Dr. Hopkins, of Illinois:

Dr. Hopkins had demonstrated in southern Illinois what could be done with a dollar and a half's worth of phosphate to soil that needed this plant food. The average yield of corn in that locality was about 13 bushels. Dr. Hopkins demonstrated that with a little phosphorus and brains the yield could be increased fourfold. An old man came up with tears in his eyes and said: "Dr. Hopkins, I want to thank you for what I have seen to-day; but, God help me, if I only knew that 40 years ago." He said, "I have six sons in my family and have labored night and day to keep body and breeches together and to keep the family together, and what have I got on my farm? Twelve to 15 or 16 bushels of corn to an acre—that's all I can make. I would have liked to send my boys to college. I would have liked to give those children an education; but I could not raise enough crop on the piece of land that I owned, so I have toiled all my life and have earned barely enough to support my family. Now, if a man had only come to me when I was comparatively young and told me the things you have told me to-day—that one dollar and a half's worth of phosphate would have given me 50 bushels of corn like the crop which was raised right over the fence from where I am—I could have sent my children to the high school and to a university."

Dr. Soule, of Georgia, discussed the subject along the same lines, and pointed out how corn and cotton production had been increased in various parts of the State nearly 100 per cent by the application of the knowledge developed in the State College of Agriculture and Experiment Station. He called attention to the different varieties of soil even in Georgia and the different character of plant foods contained in the different soils of the State. Among other things, he said:

I have told you of the variations of our soil in Georgia. How can we direct this thing from a centralized position? It is impossible to do it. There is not a man not familiar with the agricultural conditions of California who would attempt to advise the farmers of that State. It is not possible to send out information and literature from Washington that will meet the needs of the farmers in Georgia, as well as in all the other States. We must conduct this as a localized proposition, studying and teaching through the agricultural colleges.

Dr. W. D. Gibbs, president of the New Hampshire College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, gave an illustration of the benefit of agricultural extension work of the kind that this bill contemplates through a young man who studied at the College of Agriculture of New Hampshire. He said:

This old orchard was full of San Jose scale, and was an unproductive orchard, producing mediocre fruit in small quantity. The father had made his living by selling milk 8 miles away. This young man went to work on the orchard and pruned it and sprayed it and cared for it in other ways, and to-day they have one of the best apple orchards in New England. Instead of producing 800 barrels of poor fruit a year it is producing about 1,500 barrels of good fruit a year. The result is that the town has become an apple-producing center. Now, those farmers might have read agricultural experiment station bulletins for a hundred years on how to develop an orchard and they never would have done it. They believed their eyes and changed their methods.

We are tremendously interested in this thing. The salvation of New England, it seems to me, is dependent upon increased agricultural prosperity. Agricultural extension is the way to bring it about. You can talk to farmers at farmers' institutes and you can send them bulletins by the ton, but they do not change their practice. But when you go to the farm and "show" the man then he is your friend for life, and that, in my opinion, is the way to develop agriculture in New England or any other part of the United States.

Dr. Thompson, president of the University of Ohio, presented a strong appeal for the bill and declared that it was necessary to "develop the work of the American farmers," and as a "supplementary move that will reach the matured men and women, who, for one reason or another are not able to bring themselves to the school, and give them the full benefit of the appropriations already made to the colleges and experiment stations."

Dr. Howard H. Gross, president of the National Soil Fertility League, of Chicago, among other things, said:

I believe this bill for agricultural extension, measured by its general benefits, is the most important constructive measure since the days of Abraham Lincoln. I believe that is the consensus of opinion of the gentlemen who have given it careful study.

He pointed out that at a low estimate the proposed extension work is not only the way to an increase of average yield per acre of 20 per cent, but also made the following statement:

The approximate area of farm lands is 900,000,000 acres. The present crop value is about \$9,000,000,000. Twenty per cent increase means \$1,800,000,000, equal to \$18 per capita on 100,000,000 population. This sum equals one-half of all the money in circulation. Surely the figures are tremendous. The maximum cost to the Federal Treasury under the bill before you will be \$3,000,000 per year. The value of 20 per cent increase on one year's crop will pay for the proposed demonstration work for 600 years.

He also said:

There appeared before the committee representatives of agricultural associations, representatives of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations, students of agricultural development, and leading bankers, all of whom urged the passage of this measure as one necessary for the improvement of the agriculture of the country, and they dwelt upon both the benefits which would go to the farmer and to the urban citizen as a consequence of the improved methods on the farm which this bill would bring about.

At a recent meeting of the presidents of the colleges of agriculture and experiment stations, the following resolutions were passed:

The Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations, in session at Atlanta, Ga., November 14, 1912, most respectfully requests the United

States Senate to pass the agricultural extension bill, H. R. 22871, during the coming session of the Sixty-second Congress.

For some years the institutions represented in this association have been urging the development of work in agricultural extension for the purpose of carrying to the farmer in his own community the successful experience of the experiment stations and the approved teachings of the colleges of agriculture.

During the sessions of the Sixty-first Congress several bills looking to this end were introduced and hearings given to the representatives of the agricultural colleges, of the National Grange, of bankers' associations, and of others interested in the development of the Nation's agricultural resources.

On January 16, 1912, the Hon. Hoke Smith introduced in the United States Senate and Hon. A. F. Lever introduced in the House of Representatives a bill to establish agricultural extension departments in connection with the agricultural colleges in the several States receiving the benefits of the act of Congress approved July 2, 1862. The bill now known as H. R. 22871, embodying substantially the provisions of the two bills referred to above, has passed the House of Representatives and is now pending in the Senate.

The provisions of this bill have been fully discussed in the hearings before the Committees on Agriculture in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Its provisions are simple and clear. The bill seeks to bring to the practical farmer by correspondence, instruction, and demonstration the accumulated and approved experience and methods of the colleges and experiment stations during the past 50 years.

Fifty years ago the United States Congress passed the act providing for the land-grant colleges. Twenty-five years ago Congress passed the act providing for the experiment stations. Both these acts have been supplemented with legislation increasing the funds and the efficiency of both colleges and stations. It is now urged that on this anniversary year the agricultural extension bill be passed in order to enable these colleges to carry to the farmer who can not come to the college or station such demonstration of the results obtained in these institutions as shall enable him to maintain and develop the agricultural resources under his direction. This movement we believe to be in accord with sound public policy lying at the basis of the economic policies looking toward increased production as an important factor in determining the comfort and welfare of the whole people. This bill naturally and logically completes the chain of agencies fostered by the Federal Government for the betterment of agriculture. Hitherto we have maintained laboratories and field experiments at our colleges and stations, have put the results into bulletins, and have taught them in the classroom. It is now proposed to take these results to the local community, carry the school to the farmer, and make his own fields a laboratory in which we can demonstrate the value of science when applied to agriculture.

The association would call the attention of the Senate to two facts: First, the universal approval the country over of the wisdom of passing the land-grant act after an experience of 50 years; of the equally universal approval of the country of the act providing for the experiment stations after an experience of 25 years; and,

Second, to the fact that the agricultural interests as represented by farmers, the colleges, the experiment stations, the agricultural press, and other interests as represented in bankers' associations and philanthropic agencies of various names are all united in a desire to see the bill for agricultural extension become a law.

The Association of Agricultural Colleges, believing that these extension departments should be established without delay, and believing that this measure should receive favorable consideration upon its own merits without complication with other legislation, does most respectfully urge upon the Senate of the United States the importance of passing the bill for the establishing of agricultural extension departments in the agricultural colleges of the several States at the earliest possible date, to the end that the legislatures of the different States, many of which meet in January, may have opportunity to accept the provisions of the bill and to put the departments into operation during the coming year.

Attention is respectfully called to the hearings before the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry in the United States Senate, Sixty-second Congress, second session (S. 4563), March 1, 1912, for a more complete statement of the merits of the bill and of the reasons for its enactment into law.

Passed by the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations, Atlanta, Ga., November 14, 1912.

WINTHROP E. STONE, *President*.

Attest:

JOSEPH L. HILLS, *Secretary*.

The International Dry Farming Congress at Colorado Springs indorsed the bill by unanimous vote.

The New England Conference of Rural Progress, comprising 70 organizations, at a meeting in Boston, said:

Of all the bills now before Congress, we believe the Lever bill to be the most practical form of legislation yet proposed.

The Tri-State Grain Growers' convention, comprising Minnesota and the two Dakotas, passed resolutions emphatically indorsing the bill.

The executive officers of the State Grange, the State Federation of Farmers' Clubs, and State Horticulture Society, of Michigan, unanimously indorsed the bill.

The Farmers' Union indorsed the bill.

The Third Wisconsin Country Life Conference, at Madison, passed a resolution urging the Members of Congress to pass the agricultural extension bill.

Secretary of Agriculture Hon. James Wilson, in a memorandum prepared for the President of the United States, after full discussion of the provisions of the bill, says:

From time to time during the past three or four years bills have been introduced in Congress having for their object agricultural extension work, and upon these bills there has been considerable discussion. Public sentiment has gradually been crystallized on the matter until now we have before us House bill 18160, known as the Lever bill—a concrete proposition in regard to carrying the results of agricultural knowledge directly to the man on the land. Unquestionably such a plan, if properly carried out, would result in great good and would do much toward making useful and valuable the rapidly growing store of knowledge developed along agricultural lines.

(Secretary Wilson designated House bill 18160 as the bill to which he was referring. The present bill, as heretofore explained, is the substitute for that bill.)

The following are abstracts of indorsements of the bill as it was first introduced into the Senate, the present bill being practically the same measure, with only the changes to which we have heretofore called attention:

ALABAMA.

President State Agricultural and Mechanical College says it is "a splendid piece of prospective legislation."

President Alabama Polytechnic Institute: "We regard this work as one of the greatest possible good that can be rendered by the Government to our great farming interests. * * * This sort of constructive work done with the Government money seems to me is of even more value than what might be called the destructive work of the appropriations for guns and battleships."

ARIZONA.

President University of Arizona: "The newer sections of the country are in great need of the national help that such a bill as yours contemplates. * * * I am glad the whole subject is engaging the attention of Congress * * *."

ARKANSAS.

President University of Arkansas: "I heartily approve of the bill and hope that it will be passed."

Dean and director College of Agriculture: "Senate bill 4563 * * * is a piece of proposed legislation which, to my mind, is of great importance."

CALIFORNIA.

President University of California: "There is no way in which we can do real good for the masses of our people better than through agricultural extension work. * * * There can be no question about our favoring the bill; we know what it means."

CONNECTICUT.

President Connecticut Agricultural College: "My personal opinion is that carrying of the latest scientific knowledge to the working farmer is one of the most important duties of the land-grant colleges. I sincerely hope that this bill will have favorable consideration by the present session of Congress."

DELAWARE.

President Delaware College: "I am very much pleased, indeed, to hear that the bill * * * has been read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. * * * Boys and girls of the common-school and high-school ages usually decide into what sphere of life they wish to enter. Formerly the dearth of agricultural education in that formative period rendered it impossible for the boy or girl to realize the importance of such instruction and consequently the country boy usually found a home in the city. I believe that this condition of affairs will be remedied by the operation of such a bill as you have proposed."

FLORIDA.

President University of Florida: "I sincerely hope that you will be successful in passing this measure. Our State at the present time is giving \$7,500 annually for farmers' institutes and agricultural extension work. With double this amount we believe that the efficiency of the agricultural extension work would be quadrupled, as paradoxical as this may seem."

GEORGIA.

Chancellor University of Georgia: "It is the best bill for extension work that I have ever seen. It is the only bill for extension work which I have been able to read and understand. If there is any way in which I can aid in its passage I will be glad to know it."

President State College of Agriculture: "We are naturally very much gratified to see the progress you are making with your measure in the Senate, and hope Mr. Lever will have equal success in the House."

HAWAII.

President College of Hawaii: "I have read the bill over carefully and heartily commend your efforts to secure this benefit for the large and important class of our people who are in need of its provisions. This is constructive legislation of the truest type. Efficiency and contentment in agriculture are at the foundation of the Nation's welfare. * * * I believe that extension teaching is most important of all our methods for the propagation of knowledge. * * * There is sufficient data to show that the endowment for the agricultural colleges and experiment stations and the appropriations for the Department of Agriculture must be considered as among the best investments that the Nation has ever made."

IDAHO.

President University of Idaho: "Even with the best preparation we can make, and the most generous support from the Government in all of its divisions, we expect to be swamped by applications for assistance through extension instruction. Practically every community in the State is clamoring for extension work, and only a small percentage of the requests can be complied with. With reasonable support, however, from the United States and the State, we may expect that practically the whole agricultural population of Idaho will go to school for a portion of each year."

ILLINOIS.

Vice president University of Illinois: "The bill (S. 4563) introduced by you into the Senate of the United States is one of very great importance to the people of our country, and if passed is destined to work wonderfully great results. It is well known to everybody who has thought on the matter that agriculture with us is in a state of low development. * * * The people of the rural districts are not sharing adequately in the general prosperity of the country, and the latter can not be maintained without a forward movement among these rural people. Everywhere of late is heard the cry, 'Back to the farm.' But until the farm becomes desirable as a source of

living and of community life no adequate result can be reached. This bill will serve in a practical way to make this movement really successful. * * * The University of Illinois is doing a great deal of this work now from State appropriations. It can do much more with the aid that the bill is destined to give."

Editor Orange Judd Farmer, Chicago: "The demonstration idea has not been given great attention at the North. Its wonderful success South ought to be sufficient proof that it would be just as satisfactory at the North. We are heartily in favor of this kind of work. I am very anxious to do what I can to help this bill along."

INDIANA.

President Purdue University: "I am in favor of this kind of legislation rather than some of the other measures which are now before Congress. * * * I find the demands upon us for attention and for work which we would like to do far in excess of our resources. This kind of work is the thing now most needed in our agricultural colleges and I hope the measure will pass."

KANSAS.

President State Agricultural College: "We shall be very glad to do anything necessary to be done to indicate the interest of the farming classes in this matter and to assure the Members of Congress that they will appreciate the enactment of a law along the line of this bill."

KENTUCKY.

Editor Home and Farm, Louisville: "The policy will result in great good. * * * Only through a better agricultural education will the farmers be able to diversify their crops intelligently, care for their soils, and increase their profits."

MAINE.

President University of Maine: "I have gone over Senate bill 4563 with very great interest. I see nothing whatever to criticize or change in the bill. If this bill becomes a law it will enable the land-grant colleges to render unusual service to the people of this country. If I can be of any service in bringing about the favorable consideration of this bill it will be a pleasure."

MASSACHUSETTS.

President Massachusetts Agricultural College: "I am more than glad to give a hearty indorsement to the bill. * * * I think that this is one of the most important educational measures ever introduced into Congress. I believe the time is ripe for a great Federal movement in popular education in agriculture and rural affairs. The States are doing something, but we need the stimulus, direction, and practical assistance of the National Government. * * * You will find the agricultural educators and farmers of America back of you in this effort to inaugurate a great movement. I know of nothing that the present Congress could do that would be more popular. I hope the bill may be passed at this session."

MICHIGAN.

President Michigan Agricultural College: "This bill has my hearty indorsement and I hope may pass. I shall do all I can to that end."

MINNESOTA.

Indorsements received from the officers of the State College of Agriculture and Experiment Stations of Minnesota.

MISSISSIPPI.

President Agricultural and Mechanical College: "I heartily indorse your bill. While I was president of the American Association of Institute Workers I delivered an address urging that such a bill be passed by the National Congress. Extension work is by far the most important work of the land-grant colleges at this time. * * * We already have enough information to transform our agriculture if we could get the people to incorporate it in their practices."

MONTANA.

President Montana State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts: "I am heartily in favor of this movement, and I believe that the provisions of this bill will meet the approval of all the interests concerned. The amount required to carry out this bill is insignificant, and yet it will stimulate the States to expend several times this amount."

NEBRASKA.

Chancellor University of Nebraska: "The University of Nebraska has already organized a department of agricultural extension. For lack of funds, however, our work is conducted mainly along the line of farmers' institutes. I have read the bill, and most cordially indorse it in every particular."

NEW JERSEY.

President Rutgers College: "I am glad to express to you my emphatic indorsement of this measure and my earnest hope that it will be passed. The State Agricultural College of New Jersey, Rutgers College, is surely in position to do extension work throughout the State, and the work ought to be done."

NEVADA.

President College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts: "I heartily approve your bill and hope that it will be adopted."

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

President New Hampshire College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts: "My personal belief is that if this bill is passed by Congress it will be one of the wisest pieces of legislation since the land-grant act of 1862. * * * To my mind agricultural extension work is of the utmost importance at the present time. Our experiment stations have accumulated a large mass of facts and our colleges have done a wonderful work in accumulating and assimilating agricultural information of all kinds, and the most important thing we can do now is to extend this information to the farmers. This can be done only by demonstration and by other practical thorough-going methods. I hope that your bill will receive the hearty support of every Member of Congress."

NEW MEXICO.

President New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts: "I have read the bill with great care, and will say that I believe it to be the best of the several bills now pending before Congress which have this object in view. Whatever may be the merits of the various propositions to have the Federal Government support agricultural high schools, trade schools, district agricultural schools, and branch experiment stations, it seems clear that none of these ought to be tied up with the agricultural extension proposition, of which almost everybody is in favor. The Association of Agricultural Colleges at its recent meeting took the position that the support of agricultural extension work was the most important advance movement to be accomplished by legislation at this time."

NEW YORK.

President Cornell University: "It is a species of instruction which appeals to the public more than college instruction or investigation, for which provision has been made in previous acts of Congress."

NORTH CAROLINA.

President College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts: "There is no work which the Nation can do now which would tell more for material progress than the extension work which would be so healthfully aided by your bill. If there is anything that our farmers need more than another it is for some one to carry directly to them the vast amount of scientific knowledge about crops and methods which has been made available in the past few years. The passage of this bill would give an opportunity to do this thing, and I am sure no step could count more for progress than would be taken by such action on the part of our Congress."

NORTH DAKOTA.

President North Dakota Agricultural College: "A resolution was adopted at the Tri-State Grain Growers' Convention indorsing the passage of your bill, and, as president of the convention, I sent copies of the resolution to the members of both houses in Minnesota and the two Dakotas. I trust the bill will find favor with both Congressmen and Senators and become a law."

OHIO.

Dr. Thompson, of the University of Ohio, appeared in person before the committee, advocating the bill.

OKLAHOMA.

President Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College: "I am in hearty sympathy with the purpose of your bill."

OREGON.

President Oregon Agricultural College: "I am in hearty accord with all the provisions of this bill. I have already written Members of the Oregon delegation, urging that they give it their support. The Oregon State Agricultural College has a regularly organized department or division for extension work in agriculture and home economics. One great need is for money with which to carry on this work. I sincerely trust that your bill may be passed by the present Congress."

PENNSYLVANIA.

President Pennsylvania State College: "Let me thank you for copy of Senate bill 4563. * * * Wishing the bill success and thanking you for your efforts for the benefit of public education, I am, * * *"

Secretary State Horticultural Association of Pennsylvania: "I take this opportunity to especially commend Senate bill 4563, introduced by you, and to assure you of the interest and support of this association. This is a matter of immediate need and far-reaching advantage to the agricultural interests of the country. I sincerely hope that it may become a law."

RHODE ISLAND.

President Rhode Island State College: "I heartily approve of your bill and have no criticisms to make. This college has been prosecuting extension work for seven or eight years, laboring under the difficulty of lack of funds. * * * I am anxious to do whatever is possible to aid in the passage of this measure, and have written our Senators accordingly.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

President Clemson Agricultural College: "I have read this bill with a great deal of interest. * * * I consider it one of the most important pieces of constructive legislation proposed since the Hatch Act, establishing the agricultural experiment stations. There is no question but that the great need to-day is the dissemination of agricultural information among our rural people. We would welcome the passage of such a bill as yours, and assure you that we would try to make its application in South Carolina of the greatest usefulness to our people."

SOUTH DAKOTA.

President South Dakota State College: "The cause is one that has our hearty endorsement. I have not been negligent of Senate bill 4563. I believe that our delegation will support it."

Principal, School of Agriculture: "I think our farming people * * * have almost no realization of the advantages that will come from legislation of this kind. * * * I feel positive that this work will greatly advance the agricultural interests of this great State of South Dakota."

TENNESSEE.

President University of Tennessee: "I am heartily in favor of the passage of this act. I believe the work contemplated by it to be of the greatest importance. I will be glad to do anything in my power to influence its passage."

TEXAS.

President Agricultural and Mechanical College: "If this bill should become a law, I am sure that it will mark a new era in agricultural education among the masses in America. * * * I can think of no expenditure of money by the Government that would be more remunerative to the Nation and which would redound to the amelioration of so large a number of our most deserving fellow citizens."

Editor Farm and Ranch: "This is a very important measure and one that should be passed without opposition."

UTAH.

President Agricultural College of Utah: "Utah established an agricultural extension department several years ago. * * * We are unable, however, with the means at our disposal, to meet the demands made upon us. * * * You are at perfect liberty to quote the officials of the Utah Agricultural College as being in very hearty sympathy with any measure for the promotion of our industrial life through the development of extension work among the farmers and farmers' wives throughout the country. It is possibly the most important work now lying before the agricultural colleges, since it permits the proper distribution among those who need it of the splendid mass of facts gathered by the agricultural experiment stations."

VIRGINIA.

President Virginia Polytechnic Institute: "This is by far the best proposition which has yet come forward. * * * The bill seems carefully drawn, and I can most heartily indorse it."

WASHINGTON.

Vice president State College of Washington: "I have been waiting a little to find what was recommended by the meeting of the agricultural college representatives and find that they are all of them backing this particular bill. There is certainly a large demand for more extension work in the country. We need to rationalize our education and make it more helpful to the young men and young women who do not expect to enter professional life. I will write to our Representatives and Senators and ask for their hearty cooperation in the passage of Senate bill 4563."

WEST VIRGINIA.

President West Virginia University: "I thank you very much for a copy of the bill sent, and hasten to express my wish that it may become a law. * * * This is one of the greatest works for the benefit of the entire country to which public money can be devoted. It is through the extension work, and through it alone, as far as I can see, that the people of most of our rural communities can be thoroughly awakened to the need and value of agricultural education. The proposed bill seems to me to be satisfactory in every detail, and I hope that you will be successful in securing its passage."

Dean and director College of Agriculture, West Virginia University: "I am sending out a letter to some of our leading people urging the support of your bill, and would like to send a copy of the bill with these letters. * * * We shall give this measure every support possible."

WISCONSIN.

Dean University of Wisconsin: "Senate bill 5463 * * * is, to my mind, the most suggestive measure that is under consideration in Congress for the advancement of the agricultural welfare of the Nation. What is needed most imperatively is the carrying of present agricultural knowledge to the man on the farm. * * * The agricultural extension service is the only way in which this can be most effectively accomplished, and your bill most satisfactorily fulfills this need. * * * We in Wisconsin will do all that we can to aid in the passage of this measure."

Secretary Wisconsin Country Life Conference Association: "The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the conference association, representing all the varied interests of country life and rural progress in all parts of Wisconsin:

"*Resolved*, That it is the sentiment of this conference association that we urge our Representatives in Congress to support the bill 'To establish agricultural extension departments in connection with the agricultural colleges in the several States, etc.'" House bill 18160, Senate bill 4563."

"I take pleasure in acquainting you with representative Wisconsin sentiment on this measure."

Secretary Wisconsin Live Stock Breeders' Association: "Inclosed herewith please find copy of resolution passed unanimously by the Wisconsin Live Stock Breeders' Association, an organization representing all of Wisconsin's best live-stock breeders:

"*MADISON, WIS., February 8, 1912.*

"*Resolved*, That the Wisconsin Live Stock Breeders' Association assembled in annual convention heartily indorses the principle of Government aid to agricultural college extension as embodied in the Lever bill (House bill 18160), and that we authorize the secretary of this association to send a copy of these resolutions to the chairmen of the Senate and House Committees on Agriculture and to Members of the Wisconsin delegation in Congress."

Secretary National Association of State Universities: "I am deeply interested in your Senate bill 4563. The bill ought to pass, and I should be glad to cooperate with you in any way within my power to bring about the desired result."

Mr. W. O. Thompson, member executive committee Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations and president Ohio State University: "As chairman of the executive committee of the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations I should be very much pleased to be heard before the committees of both the House and Senate. As a little evidence of our interest, I may say that we started agricultural extension four years before the legislature authorized it, and had as many as 8,000 boys on the farms doing experimental work. * * * The Agricultural College Association expressed itself very decidedly last November in favor of agricultural extension."

Secretary New England Conference on Rural Progress: "At a meeting of the New England Conference on Rural Progress, March 8, at the offices of the State board of agriculture, statehouse, Boston, the following resolutions were unanimously voted:

"Recognizing the latent possibilities of the New England States for agricultural development, especially along certain high-class, specialized lines, and realizing that this development can be most speedily and effectively brought about through well-organized extension teaching in agriculture, the New England Conference on Rural Progress—representing more than 70 organizations interested in rural life—to-day assembled in convention in the city of Boston, would respectfully urge upon Congress the necessity and advisability of passing legislation granting Federal funds for the development of extension teaching in agriculture. Of the bills now before Congress we believe Senate bill 4563 and House bill 18160 to be the wisest and most practical forms of legislation yet proposed."

"The delegates represent the agricultural colleges, the experiment stations, the State granges, and various special agricultural, live stock, dairying, and other organizations and agencies of New England."

State superintendent of farmers' institutes, Lansing, Mich.: "At the Michigan State Round-up Farmers' Institute, held at this place on February 27 to March 1, at which representative farmers from more than 50 of the counties of the State were present, the following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas Representative A. F. Lever, of the seventh district of South Carolina, has introduced a bill to establish agriculture extension departments in connection with agricultural colleges in the several States receiving the benefits of an act approved July 2, 1862, and acts supplementary thereto, and referred to the Committee on Agriculture: Therefore

"Resolved, That the members of the Seventeenth Annual Farmers' Institute Round-up, in session at the Michigan Agricultural College, ask and urge its Senators and Members of Congress to favor the passage of this bill."

"I would say that, in addition to the above delegates, the executive officers of the State Grange, State Federation of Farmers' Clubs, State Horticultural Society, and nearly 1,000 farmers were present and voted unanimously for the resolution."

Editor Agricultural Epitomist, Spencer, Ind.: "I congratulate you on so far-reaching a measure as Senate bill 4563 is intended to be. If Congress does nothing else than pass this bill, it will justify the wisdom of the forefathers."

UNION CITY, GA., February 26, 1912.

Dr. A. M. SOULE

(Care Hon. Hoke Smith), Washington, D. C.:

Resolutions adopted by Georgia Farmers' Union that the bills now pending in Congress which propose to appropriate a sum of money to each State for agricultural education, providing the State will appropriate a similar amount, known as House bill 18160 and Senate bill 4563, be heartily indorsed and supported.

J. F. McDANIEL, Secretary-Treasurer.

The committee recommends the passage of the bill as it came from the House, with only the following amendment:

On page 5, line 14, strike out the words "duly appointed by the governing boards of said colleges," and insert "of the State, duly authorized by the laws of the State."

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