
FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORK

FEBRUARY 26, 1927.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. HAUGEN, from the Committee on Agriculture, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 17334]

The Committee on Agriculture, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 17334) to provide for the further development of agricultural extension work between the agricultural colleges in the several States receiving the benefits of the act entitled "An act donating public lands to the several States and Territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts," approved July 2, 1862, and all acts supplementary thereto, and the United States Department of Agriculture, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass.

The bill reported herewith is as follows:

[H. R. 17334, Sixty-ninth Congress, second session]

A BILL To provide for the further development of agricultural extension work between the agricultural colleges in the several States receiving the benefits of the act entitled "An act donating public lands to the several States and Territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts," approved July 2, 1862, and all acts supplementary thereto, and the United States Department of Agriculture

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in order to further develop the cooperative extension system as inaugurated under the act entitled "An act to provide for cooperative agricultural extension work between the agricultural colleges in the several States receiving the benefits of the act of Congress approved July 2, 1862, and all acts supplementary thereto, and the United States Department of Agriculture," approved May 8, 1914, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of paying the expenses of the cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics and the necessary printing and distributing of information in connection with the same, the sum of \$480,000 for each of the fiscal years 1929 and 1930, \$10,000 of which shall be paid annually, in the manner hereinafter provided, to each State which shall by action of its legislature assent to the provisions of such act of May 8, 1914. The payment of such installments of the appropriations hereinbefore authorized to be made as shall become due to any State before the adjournment of the regular session of the legislature meeting next after the passage of this act may, in the absence of prior legislative assent, be made upon

the assent of the governor thereof, duly certified to the Secretary of the Treasury. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$500,000 for the fiscal year 1930, in addition to the sum of \$480,000 hereinbefore provided. All sums appropriated under the provisions of this act shall be subject to the same conditions and limitations as the sums appropriated under such act of May 8, 1914, except that at least 80 per centum of all appropriations under this act shall be utilized for the payment of the salaries of men and women extension agents in equitable proportions in the counties of the different States. The restriction on the use of these funds for the promotion of agricultural trains shall not apply.

SEC. 2. The sums authorized to be appropriated under the provisions of this act shall be in addition to, and not in substitution for, sums appropriated under such act of May 8, 1914.

This bill provides for a further expansion of the cooperative agricultural extension work and boys' and girls' club work inaugurated under the Smith-Lever Act, passed May 8, 1914. The bill has the approval of the Department of Agriculture.

At the present time, under the Smith-Lever Act and acts supplementary thereto, the agricultural colleges and the Department of Agriculture have placed in the field 5,000 extension agents and 200,000 volunteer workers, who have supervised 1,500,000 demonstrations and changed 3,000,000 practices annually. There are 2,850 agricultural counties in the United States. There are 2,150 county agricultural agents, 945 home demonstration agents, and 160 boys' and girls' club agents. The average rural county in the United States has about 2,200 farm families and in addition 3,600 boys and girls of club age.

The States and counties are now appropriating \$1.83 for each dollar which the Federal Government appropriates, thus indicating the demand for further cooperative extension work. The Federal Government appropriates a total of \$7,398,440.79, or 38.2 per cent. The States appropriate \$5,239,420.54, or 27 per cent; while the counties appropriate \$6,756,777.69, or 34.8 per cent.

The price of farm products, according to weighted index numbers, is about 130 above a pre-war of 100, whereas wholesale prices of manufactured products are 150 to 160 above pre-war. Approximately 30 per cent of our people live on farms. They constitute a great producing power and a great buying power. If they suffer losses and reverses, the whole Nation responds accordingly. The county extension agents, for which this bill provides, help reduce the cost of production and increase the farmers' profits; they help fight disease among livestock and insect pests among our principal crops. They demonstrate how to make farm homes attractive and comfortable. They introduce labor-saving equipment and other home conveniences and necessities, and incidentally create a market for the same. They organize and supervise the farm boys' and girls' 4-H clubs which are doing so much to stimulate the minds and activities of our rural youth and guide them aright.

The original Smith-Lever bill was designed to complete the organization of county agents, home demonstration agents, and boys' and girls' club agents in every rural county of the United States where such agents were desired. The higher price levels brought on by the war have made this impossible and to-day the extension service is not able to meet the demands for these agents. This bill is to provide supplementary funds to complete the original conception of the Smith-Lever bill.

Particular is there a demand for home demonstration and club agents, and by reason of the lower percentage of these agents on comparison with county agents the additional funds provided under this bill will be applied principally to the appointment of such home demonstration agents and boys' and girls' club agents. Its provisions are to be administered under the same conditions as those of the Smith-Lever bill. This bill will make it possible to increase the extension service so that every agricultural county in the Nation desiring such extension service may be so provided. When it reaches its limit so far as boys' and girls' club work is concerned, it should enroll annually about 2,000,000 boys and girls in 4-H club work.

It will put conveniences into the farm home. It will build up the efficiency of farming and lower the cost of production. It will encourage cooperation, the growing of high-quality products and the marketing of the same in a scientific manner. It will aid in the adjustment of production to demand and prevent many critical situations which now confront our farmers. It will help to maintain soil fertility. It will aid in keeping agriculture on the same plane with industry. It will put the American standard of living into every farm home. It will provide a bulwark of safety in time of national stress by insuring an adequate food supply of high quality. It will promote and increase national prosperity; and lastly, and perhaps best of all, it will provide for the proper education of the farm boys and girls and make of them the type of citizens which the Nation must have.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
Washington, February 26, 1927.

HON. JOHN C. KETCHAM,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. KETCHAM: Reference is made to your bill, H. R. 16295, "To provide for the further development of agricultural extension work between the agricultural colleges in the several States * * * and the United States Department of Agriculture." At the present time the agricultural extension system is less than one-half completed. Of the 2,850 agricultural counties in the United States, 700 do not have extension agents. There is great need for more agricultural agents, home demonstration agents, and agents who will devote all of their time to the boys' and girls' club work. It is my judgment that the two latter phases of extension work are of very great importance and that to increase the funds provided for these activities will be of inestimable value to the agriculture of the Nation.

The matter has been referred to the Budget Bureau, as required by Budget Circular No. 49, and under date of February 25, 1927, I was advised by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget that the legislation contained in H. R. 16295 and S. 5263, which would make permanent appropriations, would be in conflict with the President's financial program. The Director of the Bureau of the Budget stated, however, that if the proposed legislation were amended so as to limit the authorization of appropriations to \$480,000 each for the fiscal years 1929 and 1930, \$10,000 of which would be paid annually to each State, and authorized the appropriation of an additional amount of \$500,000 for the fiscal year 1930, to be subject to the conditions and limitations proposed, it would not be in conflict with the President's financial program. The Director of the Budget points out further that a two-year program of this kind would be in harmony with the authorized program for good roads and also for other Federal-aid programs.

Sincerely yours,

W. M. JARDINE, *Secretary.*

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The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been elected to the office of Secretary of the University of Chicago for the year 1920. The names are arranged in alphabetical order of their last names. The names of the persons who have been elected to the office of Secretary of the University of Chicago for the year 1920 are: [The text is extremely faint and mostly illegible, but it appears to be a list of names.]

SECRETARY

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W. M. ...

