

“The improvement and betterment of country life has occupied the attention of many of our sister States, and much of our own prosperity depends upon the development of agriculture in this State. It would therefore seem to be wise to pass a law creating a commission to investigate conditions as they exist in Maryland, and to suggest policies that may be undertaken on the part of our State for the benefit of our farmers and to bring to the attention of the public generally the many natural advantages which our State has to offer to those desiring to pursue the tilling of the soil as a means of livelihood;” and,

WHEREAS, The suggestion of the appointment of such a commission is a recognition of the fact that the man in the country—the farmer—has problems that government should aid in solving; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, that the Governor is hereby authorized to appoint a commission to be known as the Maryland Country Life Commission.

SEC. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the said commission shall have for its objects and purposes, among others:

1. A general study and investigation of the problems and conditions of country life in Maryland, with particular reference to those problems relating to securing better business methods and better living and social conditions on the farm.

2. Co-operation with the agencies and institutions of the State and National Governments, with agricultural boards and organizations, with rural communities, individuals and other agencies, in connection with the work of study and investigation as hereinbefore set forth, in suggesting remedies and in formulating methods and policies looking to the development and improvement of country life and agricultural interests.

3. The collection and distribution of such information and publication; the recommendation and suggestion of such legislation, as the commission may deem advisable in furtherance of its work for the advancement and betterment of agricultural interests and rural conditions.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the said commission shall consist of seven members, to serve without compensation. So soon as practical after the appointment of the members of said commission they shall organize by the selection of one of their number as chairman, and by the election of a secretary, who need not be a member of the commission, who