

## CHAPTER 221.

AN ACT to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of constructing plants for converting oyster shells into lime for agricultural purposes.

WHEREAS, The productive power of the soil is the basic support of all prosperity and all classes of people are interested in the food supply; and

WHEREAS, Large areas of farm land are being abandoned each year owing to exhaustion of the soil, and it has been conclusively demonstrated that the application of lime restores such land to its original state of productiveness; and

WHEREAS, Along the tide waters of the State, there are large accumulations of oyster shells which are not put to any profitable use, and large shipments are made to other States to be converted into lime of agricultural purposes; and

WHEREAS, Lime made from oyster shells is of equal or greater value than that produced from other sources and it is right and proper that the State of Maryland should conserve its resources for the benefit of its citizens; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the sum of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000.00) be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the purposes of establishing in Southern Maryland, a plant for the converting and reduction of oyster shells into Agricultural lime.

SEC. 2. *Be it enacted,* That a Board is hereby constituted and appointed to be known as the "State Agricultural Lime Board," which said Board shall be composed of the "Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture," "The Director of Farmer's Institutes," "The State Agent of Farmer's Demonstration Work" for the time being, and their successors in office to serve without other compensation than their expenses.

SEC. 3. Immediately after the appropriation hereby appropriated shall become effective, the said Board shall organize by electing a President and a Secretary and other officers necessary and thereupon they shall proceed to acquire the ground necessary for said plants, and construct the proper buildings and install proper machinery, and after the said several acts shall be performed, they shall employ proper superintendents and employ proper clerical help, and acquire the