AGRONOMIC AFFAIRS
MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND SECTION

The New England Section of the American Society of Agronomy met at the Boston City Club, Boston, Massachusetts, December 3 and 4, 1926, for the 13th annual meeting. About 30 agronomists and others interested in Agronomy attended the various sessions. The following program was presented.

DECEMBER 3, 7 P. M.
Banquet, followed by smoker. Dr. A. B. Beaumont, presiding.
After dinner topic: "The Service of Statistical Methods in Agriculture." Papers were presented as follows:
(Abstract printed elsewhere in this issue.)
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Discussion led by Director W. L. Slate, Jr.
A report of the committee on freight rates for lime was read by J. S. Owens. An increase of from 25 to 80% in freight rates on agricultural liming materials since 1913 was noted, the increase in freight being greater than the increase in cost of the limestone itself.

According to the committee, the cost of shipping agricultural limestone in Minnesota is 1 cent per ton per mile with a minimum rate of 60c, while in Connecticut the lowest freight rate is $1.80.

Further studies are suggested in order to get information on the following:
1. Existing commodity rates in New England with mileage and class rate and a computation of the class rate to the commodity rate.
2. Similar information from the Central Freight Association and Trunk line territories must be had for comparison.
3. Rates in all three territories established by exception to classification on lower than classification basis must be assembled.

More complete information is needed to justify a case before the Interstate Commerce Commission and to persuade railroad officials that a reduction in freight rates will mean larger business. Larger loadings might increase car-mile earnings and decrease the tonnage rate. Comparative freight rate data were presented.

The committee was continued.
The committee for the revision of the New England standard nine fertilizers had no report to make, but the committee was continued.