

[Act No. 1767, October 11, 1907]

AN ACT MAKING PERMANENT CONTINUING ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS TO ENCOURAGE THE PRODUCTION OF TOBACCO AND TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF THE TOBACCO-MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS BY PROVIDING BOUNTIES FOR THE GROWERS OF LEAF TOBACCO, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Whereas there has been for several years a decrease in the amount of leaf tobacco produced in these Islands and a deterioration in the quality thereof, due to faulty and unscientific methods of planting the seed, caring for the growing leaf, and the subsequent curing thereof when harvested; and

Whereas this condition of affairs has resulted and is resulting in injury to the tobacco-manufacturing industries of these Islands and to the export trade in leaf tobacco and the manufactured products of tobacco: Now, therefore.

By authority of the United States, be it enacted by the Philippine Commission, that:

SECTION 1. Beginning with the calendar year nineteen hundred and eight, and each year thereafter, there shall be paid bounties to union growers of tobacco under the following conditions:

(a) One thousand pesos in the Province of Cagayan, one thousand pesos in the Province of Isabela, and seven hundred and fifty pesos in the Province of La Union to the grower of leaf tobacco in each of said provinces who plants not less than one hectare nor more than ten hectares and who produces the largest number of marketable leaves per hectare.

(b) One thousand pesos in the Province of Cagayan, one thousand pesos in the Province of Isabela, and seven hundred and fifty pesos in the Province of La Union to the grower of leaf tobacco in each of said provinces who cultivates not less than one hectare nor more than ten hectares and who sorts the tobacco leaves harvested on such holding in the most uniform manner as regards the size, quality, coloring, and so forth, of the leaves.

(c) One thousand pesos in the Province of Cagayan, one thousand pesos in the Province of Isabela, and seven hundred and fifty pesos in the Province of La Union to the grower of leaf tobacco in each of said provinces who presses and packs in manos the leaves harvested on such holdings, and cures it, in the manner best suited for the manufacture of cigars and other tobacco products within the Philippine Islands, or most nearly in accordance with the demands of consumers abroad as regards leaf tobacco exported from those Islands: *Provided*, That the committee of three appointed as hereinafter provided to judge of the merits of the claims of the various competitors for the bounties provided above may, in their discretion, instead of assigning the bounty to one individual in each province, distribute it among not to exceed three of the growers whose claims they consider most meritorious; and in such case fifty per centum of the bounty shall be given to the grower who most nearly