

# **3. THE STATE FARM BILL**

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**Governor George Pardee signed the bill (below) on March 18, 1905, authorizing the siting and development of a University of California “State Farm.” Its main purposes were to be research, education, and public service on**

**agricultural practices suited to California conditions.**

**Although already existing in Berkeley, agricultural research was inherently limited by the atypical weather and soil conditions of the area.**

The front page of the March 11th *Enterprise* carried this small notice. Perhaps not yet appreciated, one of the 760 bills passed in this session would soon change Davisville in fundamental ways.

### **This Morning's News.**

The legislature adjourned yesterday. The shortest session on record of the state. Business all cleared up and 760 bills in the hand of the Governor.

Copy of  
the  
"Univer-  
sity Farm"  
bill as  
Intro-  
duced.

These are  
pages 1  
and 2 of 4  
pages.

A N A C T

PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A UNIVERSITY FARM FOR THE USE OF  
THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA;  
PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION TO SELECT AND  
PURCHASE SAID FARM, PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM OF INSTRUCTION ON  
SAID FARM AND APPROPRIATING MONEY THEREFOR.

The people of the State of California, represented in Senate and  
Assembly, do enact as follows:-

SECTION 1. Immediately after the passage of this act the  
Governor shall appoint a commission of four persons, who together  
with himself shall be known as the "Commissioners for the Select-  
ion and Purchase of a University Farm." Said commission shall con-  
sist of and be appointed as follows: The Governor of the State of  
California shall be ex officio a member thereof, and the president  
of the commission; the Governor shall appoint as the remaining four  
members of said commission the President of the University of Cal-  
ifornia, the Lieutenant Governor of the State of California, the  
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of California, and  
the President of the State Board of Agriculture. Said commission  
shall hold office until they have performed the duties hereinafter  
provided for. They shall receive no compensation, but the expenses  
of their qualification and necessary traveling expenses shall be  
paid out of the moneys hereinafter appropriated.

SEC. 2. Immediately after the appointment of said commission<sup>summers</sup>  
(ers) they shall organize and proceed to select and purchase a farm  
or tract of land to be known as the University Farm, and to be used

as an agricultural college farm, and for the site or location of  
buildings and such other structures as may be necessary for use in  
connection therewith and for the purposes herein set forth. Said  
farm or tract of land shall be<sup>s</sup> located ~~at~~ such place as said com-  
mission may deem proper, having consideration for the purposes for  
which it is to be used. It must be firstclass tillable land, and  
in its soil, location, climate and general environment be typical  
and representative of the best general agricultural conditions in  
California, and be capable of successfully producing the general  
crops of the State, and as many as may be of all of the crops and  
products successfully grown in California. <sup>①</sup> For the purposes of se-  
curing or purchasing said farm said commission shall have the power  
to take and secure options, or bonds, for deeds, and may accept a  
gift of the whole or any part of said farm. They may also receive  
gifts of water-rights, canals, ditch, flume or other rights, ease-  
ments or appurtenances to any farm which they may select, and may  
also purchase any such water or other rights, or acquire the same  
by the exercise of the right of eminent domain.

SEC. 3. The deed for said farm or tract of land, or other  
property purchased, shall, when the same shall have been purchased  
by said commission, be taken in the name of, and the deed shall be  
made to the Regents of the University of California. When said com-  
mission shall have selected and purchased the said tract or farm  
or other property herein provided for, they shall present their  
claim for the amount or sum agreed to be paid therefor to the State  
Board of Examiners, and upon the allowance of said bill or claim the  
Controller shall draw his warrant for the amount thereof, payable  
out of the sum hereby appropriated in favor of the owner or owners

2.

# Repro- ductions of Pages 3 & 4 of the original Univer- sity Farm Bill

(Reproduced from the original copy archived in the Department of Special Collections, UCD Shield Library)

of the properties selected and purchased as hereinabove provided for. Said warrant or warrants when so drawn shall be delivered to said commission, which shall use the same to pay the purchase price of said farm or tract or other property, taking a deed therefor as aforesaid, the same to be delivered <sup>4</sup>(to) and filed with the Regents of the University of California.

SEC. 4. The said University Farm when purchased as afore said shall be immediately given into the possession of, and shall be under the management, direction and control of the Board of Regents of the University of California. Immediately upon obtaining possession of said University Farm said Regents shall proceed to have constructed thereon buildings and such other structures as shall be necessary for the use <sup>of said farm as an agricultural school, and for of said farm as a school of practical agriculture, and a Sunday character</sup> for purposes of education in agriculture. They shall provide for the purchase of supplies, implements, machines, and apparatus, the planting of trees and vines, and forage and agricultural crops, for the purchase of domestic livestock, and for the employment of laborers. They shall appoint the necessary instructors and inaugurate and provide for the conduct of instruction <sup>of a practical, primary, and secondary character</sup> in practical and scientific agriculture, and in such other branches of learning as are allied thereto, and as are calculated to better qualify and inform the students attending in the theory and practice of agriculture.

This instruction shall be conducted in connection with and as part of the college of agriculture of the University of California, <sup>6</sup> provision being made by the Regents for such attendance on the farm of the college students as may be deemed best and necessary to the completion of their college courses.

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<sup>and the instruction given thereon,</sup>  
The University Farm shall be so conducted as to meet the needs of persons who desire instruction in agriculture, horticulture, <sup>irrigation</sup> animal industry, dairying and poultry raising, and to prepare them for the pursuit thereof; and shall also be used for experimental and investigational work in connection with the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of California.

Short courses of instruction shall also be arranged for in each of the leading branches of agricultural industry, so regulated as to provide for popular attendance and general instruction in agricultural practice.

SEC. 5. The sum of <sup>Five hundred and Fifty thousand Dollars</sup> is hereby appropriated <sup>7</sup> for the purpose of this act. <sup>8</sup> The commission hereinabove provided for shall draw against said appropriation as hereinabove authorized. After such sums have been paid therefrom the remaining portion of said appropriation shall be subject to the order of and shall be paid to the said Board of Regents <sup>9</sup> for the purposes of this act.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect immediately.

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Enlarged copy of the famous "blue slip" Judge Shields hand wrote just as the University Farm bill was going before the Legislature and attached to the bill with a pin.

This amending slip contains an irrigation requirement. It was added at the urging of Yolo County leaders, who knew it would disqualify dozens of competitor sites.

