

# The M. A. C. Record.

VOLUME I.

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## Notes from the Institutes.

Increased interest and large attendance marked the second week of Farmers' Institutes. Most of these were held in the sparsely populated northern sections of our state, where those who attended had to drive long distances across country, yet, in spite of distance and storm they came.

At Benzonia there was a good attendance. M. S. Gregory, with '92, of Honor, read a paper on, "The value of the Michigan Agricultural College to the Farm Boy." It was an excellent and strong plea for the education of the boys, showing the advantages to be gained by an education, and how this can best be obtained at the College.

Crowds came from all parts of the county to Copemish. Conductor Ball advocated breeding only the best blooded stock—the Jersey for butter, the short-horn for beef. J. N. Stearns would have fruit growers take several horticultural papers, and above all, be honest in packing and shipping. G. H. True handled in a creditable manner Prof. Smith's subject, "The Home Dairy." The question, "Rural Free Postal Delivery; Would It Be Just?" was also discussed.

Metaphorically speaking, some of the grass seeds that I have sown so lavishly in many counties of the state during the past 25 years, have begun to show themselves.

Mr. Croman, one of our enthusiastic workers from Grass Lake, was much impressed with our exhibit of grasses and clovers in the old store two years ago. He began the use of more kinds, was pleased, and is now "sowing seed" from his crop at Institutes this winter.

At Rose City, where the grasses were shown last winter, they pointed out the string and one of the clips left for a year and had been trying experiments suggested.

I was gratified in the discussion brought out in Roscommon to meet a man who had been using tall oat grass and orchard grass in his mixtures and found them excellent. How did it happen? He had formerly attended the Institutes at Grayling.

Experiments of this kind in many neighborhoods, if successful, must prove contagious and help the College and the Institute. W. J. B.

The Institute at East Jordan, Dec. 2 to 3, was one of the most successful thus far. A large crowd attended each meeting. An interesting discussion followed each paper, making more apparent than ever the value of these meetings to the agriculturist. W. O. H.

It is not often that the "Institute workers" receive a more cordial welcome and a more appreciative people than were gathered at each session of the Mio Institute. Farmers were eager to learn. Many expressed a deep interest in the future Institute work among farmers. They were not slow to acknowledge the benefits they had derived from the institutes held there. The farmers are awake to their best interests and will succeed. H. W. M.

On account of poor roads the Ogemaw county institute, held at Rose City, was not so well attended as last

year. The topics presented, however, were appropriate and well discussed. Questions of live stock and forage crops provoked interesting discussions, showing that though Ogemaw county is in the woods the farmers are not behind the times. There seems to be no doubt but that fruit can be successfully raised here, and that some at least of the good housewives know how to make and sell good butter. The subject of the farmer's house and its surroundings brought forth healthful discussions whenever brought up, whether in the women's section or in the general meeting. G. H. T.

The citizens of Midland and the surrounding country have once more demonstrated the possibility of holding enthusiastic farmers' institutes in northern Michigan.

It is very seldom that farmers and their wives show greater interest than was shown in the institute at Midland. The institute had not closed before the people began to plan for next year. It was decided to hold its next meeting at LaPorte—said to be in the center of one of the richest parts of the county. H. W. M.

The attendance at Roscommon was not large, in fact the county is but little settled as yet and but few farmers could get to the institute. Some interesting farm products were brought in by farmers, such as corn, roots, peas, clover, fruit, etc. Farmers need encouragement and better markets. H. W. M.

## Sunshine and Shadow.

The lecture in the chapel on, "Sunshine and Shadow," last Wednesday evening by Prof. Griffiths was something different from anything our people are accustomed to hear, but was thoroughly enjoyed. Prof. Griffiths speaks with the feelings of an artist and holds his audience closely. The following is an abstract of what he said during the hour that he spoke:

Sunshine is all around us. It pervades the vibrating, palpitating air. This feeling is strong in so many of the painters of our present generation. Their pictures are saturated with brightness and sunshine and the feeling of life. But accompanying sunshine is shadow. Shadow, but still with light in it to convey properly the feeling of reality to the surface illuminated by sunshine there must be the shadowy in its proper complementary color. You walk along the yellow sands of the seashore, and how beautiful are the blue shadows. Yes, there must be with light always, that idea of complement in color. You walk out in the evening. Here is a fete—suddenly a blaze of colored lights. See how by this red light the shadows are cast of a distinct green.

All through the lives of men are sunshine and shadow. Artists with their sensitive natures reflect this pervading feature of their lives in their works more than any other class of men.

Michael Angelo, strong and self-confident, with that mighty intellect, mysterious, far reaching. His works do not show the effect of a gay and merry life, but rather one of all seriousness. Witness his great figure of the alert and confident David. The grand figure of that mighty leader and law giver,

Moses. The mysterious and fascinating face of the dying slave. Raphael, on the other hand leading the life of a prince. His gentle, almost effeminate, face suggests to a certain degree that his pictures will be strong in the elements of beauty of form, grace in composition and charm of color. Going rather to brightness, beauty and lovely qualities. Perhaps the face of the Sistine Madonna exemplifies this as well as anything of his with which most of us are familiar.

If we come down to our own century we find the same thing is true, "Sunshine and Shadow." Diaz, loving to paint beauty, brightness, strength in nature.

Corot, good Papa Corot, leading that tranquil and quiet life. Ah, the beauty, the enchanting qualities of his pictures—their tender greens, their silvery grays, the all pervading atmosphere. One loves them.

But here is a man who shows the shadow predominating. Millet, painting the lives, the laborious, too often cheerless, lives of the French peasants in their ceaseless struggle with the soil. He is also painting into the canvas some of the sadness of his own life. We must know of the life of the French peasants; we must know of the life of Millet to appreciate his pictures.

A man and woman standing in a field of the plain of Barbizon, the implements of toil at hand, the sun is down, but the sky is suffused by beautiful sunset colors. The heads of the peasants are bowed reverently—but one must know in order to appreciate the picture that stealing over the plain comes from the distant church tower the gentle command to worship of the evening bell, "The Angelus."

But cities and nations have their sunshine and shadow as well as individuals. A dark pall of shadow came over the city of Pompeii so many hundred years ago. A curious fact, a coincidence perhaps, but yet a fact, that Pliny, standing on the hills afar off, witnessed the cause of the dreadful catastrophe and noted it down on his tablets as he saw it.

There rose up a great column from the crater of the volcano and this spread out like the immense top of a great palm. Down came the ashes, filtering into every nook and cranny. Then came the sprinkling of water, then a rain of mud, coming later in torrents and pouring down the mountain in streams.

Hundreds of years, hundreds of years after came the exhuming of the buried city. It is intensely interesting to watch the continuation of the process. Here the workmen come to some object incrustated with greenish earth, it is a copper vessel. Here is another—the color of the surrounding crust is red—the object is of iron. One longs to climb over the debris and pick away the coverings from those curiosities with his own hands. In the museum one sees a sad reminder of the horror of the fatal day. A girl, a poor blind girl, with outstretched, groping hands, the terrible anxiety of the face, the moving pathos of the mouth, with the drawn lines at its corners. Ah! The shadow, the terrible shadow that came over the city. But even this calamity is not without its ray of sunshine. May we not find this in the bravery, the devotion to duty of the Roman sentinel

who saw the coming of the calamity, felt the horrible suffocating fall of the ashes, then the driving of the dreadful dull colored torrents, but never swerved from duty and still stands at his post, in that effigy cast in the mould left by his decaying remains. Some day may the attentively listening ear of his spirit hear the rattle of arms as his relief approaches.

We cannot find a better illustration of the sunshine and shadow of national existence than that of the French people. You are in Paris and ask the way to the Invalides. You are told to go down this street to a certain point, then follow the crowd. You go, and soon find yourself looking at the sarcophagus that contains the dust of the great Napoleon. After the terrible years of the revolution comes the little Corsican to lead the French people out into the brightness, the glory of the empire. But that must end, and away off on that lonely island of the Atlantic, on a dark forbidding night, amid the battle of the elements, went out into the shadowy unknown the spirit of the man of destiny, who had led the French people through years of the most brilliant sunshine and depressing gloom. Victor Hugo aptly compares the French people to gun powder. Taking the grains separately, small and insignificant perhaps, but combined in a mass capable of a dreadful explosion.

In the house, in a room by itself, stands that incomparable work of Greek art, the Venus de Milo. The history of this piece of marble affords an interesting illustration of the vicissitudes of a work of art—its period of sunshine and shadow, if you please. Can you imagine this beautiful woman, standing in a Greek temple, perhaps writing upon a shield the names of the victors in the Olympian games? Do you wonder that with her beautiful form, her noble face that she is worshiped by the Athenians? Surely no sculptor ever chiseled a figure more divine. Here and there about her go and come the Greeks in their easy flowing draperies, old men and boys, young men and maidens, the philosopher and the athlete. Looking out between the exquisite Ionic columns you see the divine deep blue of the sky of Greece, with perchance a glimpse of the sparkling sea. The Venus is in sunshine. But here, on the island of Melos, imprisoned in layer upon layer of soil, maybe mutilated by the Turks, the exquisite marble that knew the touch of the creating hand of the great sculptor and the homage of the Athenian multitude, is in sorrowful shadow indeed. But here, in the Louvre, receiving an homage little short of worship, our Venus is again in sunshine.

An incident connected with the Venus de Milo illustrates well the vicissitudes alike of nations and works of art.

To save the statue from the possible results of the capture of Paris by the Prussians it was boxed and securely hidden in the basement of one of the government buildings. It remained there, and after the evacuation by the Prussians the building was burned during the commune. As soon as possible after the fire way was made to the place of concealment of the Venus. After the removal of the debris it was discovered that a water pipe had burst and for some time had been pouring a stream of water over the marble. Thus, Venus, born of the sea, was made doubly safe by water. Once more she stands in the sunshine of the French people.



At the College.

W. H. Arney, '00, was ill last week.

F. N. Lowry, '97m, does not expect to return next term.

A. S. Eldridge, '99m, entertained his parents last week.

Eugene Price, '00, entertained his father last Wednesday.

G. H. True took Prof. Smith's place in institute work last week.

Mrs. J. J. Deal, *nee* Sinclair, visited at M. A. C. last Thursday and Friday.

C. Leak, of Elbridge, was the guest of D. J. Crosby during the meeting of the State Grange.

The '99 class colors are lavender and white, but T. H. Libby is wearing the black and blue nowadays.

Prof. Noble's mother left last Wednesday for a visit in Ohio before returning to her home in Iowa.

The farce that was to be given last Friday evening has been postponed to the first Friday evening of next term.

"Military Hop Tickets For Sale Here." 'Tis said the above sign appeared on Chace Newman's door the other day.

H. D. Ward and wife, of Charlevoix, visited the College Friday and Saturday. Mr. Ward was on one of our institute crews last winter.

The King's Daughters will meet Wednesday, Dec. 16, at 2 p. m., with Mrs. Weil instead of with Mrs. Barrows as stated last week.

F. W. Kramer, *sp.*, left College last Saturday to accept a position with Thum Bros. & Schmidt, dealers in photographic supplies, Grand Rapids.

H. L. Becker and James McCallum entertained their uncle, Mr. Neil McCallum and Mrs. Mary E. Robertson, both of whom were attending the State Grange from Hesperia last week.

No doubt remains as to the success of military hops at M. A. C. About seventy couples took part in the one given in the armory last Friday evening, and, had the music been a little better, only words of praise would have been heard. As it was, everybody seemed to have a splendid time. The early hours, from 8 to 11:30, will probably become the popular hours at College.

Johnson, Kalamazoo's star twirler, after spending the season in various

professional base ball teams, is back in College and has commenced active training with the other athletic candidates. Jacobs has returned from a professional engagement—with London, Ont.—to Albion's amateur "Varsity" team. Is this the kind of amateur athletes we are to compete against in the M. I. A. A. next year?

By far the best game of foot ball we have seen here this year was played between the freshmen and sophomores last Saturday forenoon. From start to finish the game was a hot one, full of sharp plays and brilliant tackles. At the end of the first half the score was 6 to 4 in favor of the freshmen, and by the way the second half started out it looked as though they would win, for they rushed the ball rapidly over the goal line. The sophomores rallied, however, and just before time was called Gould, by a good run, carried the ball over and Brainerd kicked goal, thus tying the score. Final score 10 to 10.

#### Another for the Class of 1913.

The RECORD has said that some of the members of the class of 1913, or thereabout, have made their debut. If present indications are a guarantee of future events, this class will make considerable noise in the world. One of the possible prospective members has evidently made up his mind to become a College man and has begun to practice the class yell, "Ah! Goo!! Ah!!!" etc. He has also signified his intention of drilling during his senior year, and of walking out should he miss the last car from down town. In the latter respect he will, figuratively and literally tread in the steps of his father, M. G. Kains, '95. He was born Dec. 13.

#### Frank N. Jaques.

Again the hand of death has been laid upon an alumnus of our College, again we mourn the end of a bright young life. Frank N. Jaques, who but four months ago finished his College course, died at his home near Flint, last Saturday, of appendicitis. The news was a great surprise to his friends here, none of whom knew of his illness.

After graduation Mr. Jaques returned to his home and began work with his father in managing his large farms. A little over a week ago he was taken ill and, soon after, an operation for appendicitis was performed, from which he could not recover.

News of his death reached College Sunday morning, and immediately the Columbian society, of which he was a member, called a special meeting and appointed E. H. Sedgwick and S. H. Fulton to attend the funeral, which will be held today.

#### State Grange and State Association of Farmers' Clubs.

Nearly all last week the Capital City was in possession of these two strong state organizations of farmers. The Association of Farmers' clubs completed its regular work Tuesday after-

noon. The grange reached a final adjournment Friday evening. Both organizations favored retrenchment in public expenditures and various tax reforms.

Tuesday evening an open meeting was held in Representative hall, in which both organizations took part. M. A. C. was well represented on the program. The welcome to State Association of Farmers' Clubs was given by Jason Woodman, '81, lecturer of the state grange. It was an address full of good thought and suggestion. He found reason for gratification in the united efforts for advancement among farmers, and strongly urged that they make their influence felt in state government.

"Michigan Agricultural College and the Farmer Boy" was the subject of an address by President J. L. Snyder.

Mrs. Mary A. Mayo and Prof. Edith F. McDermott gave good talks on "What is Michigan doing for her girls?" Among other things, Miss McDermott said:

"We have at last come to realize that the way to elevate the world is to begin at the home.

"The Michigan Agricultural College realized this fact when it added a woman's course to its college curriculum last fall. They realized that because a girl lived in the country, was no criterion that she should be the personification of ignorance and the horror of her city cousins. They also realized that the girls of our state had just as much right, and just as many urgent needs for an education as did their brothers, but not in the same lines. They looked back over the fields of labor, compared the past with the present, and concluded that what science had done for the workshop it could also do for the home, if properly applied. It is not what a man knows that is going to be a benefit to him, but what he applies to the practical things in this life. It is applied science in its most practical form we are teaching in our college. Our woman's course aims to make new women—not the new woman of the newspaper, but the intelligent, well educated, womanly woman of today, who takes her chemistry into her kitchen and applies it to her cooking; whose knowledge of physics enables her to understand the requirements of good plumbing and other matters connected with the sanitation of the house; whose course in bacteriology teaches her the importance of pure water and pure food; her physiology helps her to be a wiser mother.

"It was in the fertile brain of a woman that the idea of teaching domestic science first materialized, contrary to the theory of Voltaire, that ideas were like beards, boys never had them till they grew up, and women never at all. Lectures are given throughout the course on household economy, chemistry of foods, sanitation emergencies, hygiene, and what a girl should know."

A. C. Bird, '83, of Highland, took an active part in the work of the farmers' clubs, and was appointed a member of the legislative committee. He gave an address before the association on the "Future of the Farmers' Club Movement."

#### The College Lands.

##### FOUR CLASSES OF TRESPASSERS.

The trespassers on College and other state lands may be divided into four classes. The first, because largest, are some of our most wealthy lumbermen. These men are not usually the actual trespassers, but whenever they cut a tract of land adjoining state parcels

the contracts are let to jobbers who put the timber in at so much per thousand feet. In too many instances no lines are marked, or any attention paid to them if they are, and no question asked as to where the timber comes from, the only query being, How much does it overrun or fall short of the estimate? and the jobber being desirous of cutting as much as he can after building roads, camps and making other expensive preparations, cuts everything in sight and often looks for more.

The second class are men who make a business of stealing timber and who cannot see a valuable tree without formulating a desire to cut and sell it. These are the hardest to catch as they will cut and haul a fine tree in a single night and unless caught red handed there are many chances that they will never be apprehended. Four men from whom we collected in a certain township last spring, were of this class and the fact that each man connected with the affair was on one or the other of the township tickets for election last April shows the fallacy of leaving these matters to township officers.

The third class of offenders are those who in cutting off a piece of timber adjoining a state lot, cut more or less timber just over the line. Many of them do this from ignorance of the exact location of the boundaries of their lands and with the intention of paying for any timber belonging to the state when they are convinced that they have taken it. These parties are usually easily disposed of when once found out and the collection is an easy matter.

The fourth class are men who take jobs for public improvement. These contractors have an idea that there is somewhere a law that allows them to go anywhere upon the public domain and cut such material as they need for the construction of bridges, culverts and crossways or other improvements where timber is needed. There is now in process of construction a bridge across the Au Sable river and most of the timber used in its building was cut from College lands. These men can always be compelled to pay at least whatever the timber is worth, the cutting being usually done on the same plan as the third class—that of paying if caught. Many temporary railroad lines are run through College lands without a permit of any kind and thousands of acres of timber have been burned over because of it; often, too, the best timber along the route within a strip 100 feet wide will be cut and the timber put in with the balance of the cut.

##### HOW SHALL WE DEAL WITH TRESPASSERS?

The system of dealing with these offenders is not one which tends toward preventing further acts of the same kind. Many of them are caught, it is true, and collection made for the value of the timber, and usually for the expense and time of the agent who looks it up, but the law of charging triple damages is rarely enforced and I am told that no one has been arrested for stealing timber for the past twenty years. The law in regard to this makes the taking of more than \$25 worth of timber a case of grand larceny, punishable by not more than five years' imprisonment. I am informed at the attorney general's office that all necessary assistance will be given by them in enforcing this law. Would not a little earnest prosecution be the proper thing? Or is it better for the state to go on selling timber at wholesale prices to any one who may desire to cut it. This matter becomes more and more important as the large tracts

of timber are opened up and the matter should be considered seriously. The College and the state at large have already too much land that has been made practically unsalable by a class of men who commit depredations on public lands that would not for a moment be tolerated by private parties or corporations. The plea has been made that these timber thieves were poor men whose families were in need. This is most emphatically untrue and I have not known of a single instance where these parties were not abundantly able to pay for the stolen timber and to provide for their families by honest labor on their farms.

#### FUTURE MANAGEMENT OF COLLEGE LANDS.

I have been asked to give my opinion as to the best course to be pursued in the future management of the College lands. I am somewhat loath to advance such ideas to a body of gentlemen whom I know to have the welfare of our grand M. A. C. always with them and uppermost in their thoughts, but as I have been over this field and looked the lands over carefully I have often thought that if our law makers could only see things as I have seen them and the Board of Agriculture could have the same view, some action might be taken which would result in good for the College and the State as interested in the public domain.

The state of Michigan is fast entering into those conditions which have confronted many European countries in the matter of forest extermination and forest growth. No attempt whatever is being made by lumbermen to save anything from the general destruction. Work is carried on in the woods with the sole idea of getting out whatever is merchantable for lumber; no attempt is made to save the undergrowth, and any person so wild as to suggest that such a thing might be done at a little expense would undoubtedly be jeered at. Trees are felled so as to be convenient for sawing and skidding and usually no more attention is paid after taking out the logs which will make lumber. Unless the lot is near a good wood market nothing further is done—no attempt at clearing brush or rubbish is made, the whole lot becoming one chaotic mass, and after lying this way until it becomes dry the first spark kindles the fire and the young timber is all destroyed. Hundreds of thousands of acres have been desolated in this way and can be seen from the car window of any railroad traversing the northern portions of our state. There are probably less than 100,000 acres of good forest lands left in the lower peninsula which are now under public control. This does not include state tax lands or the poorer quality of state swamp lands which are in no sense timbered lands. The remaining timbered lands are the property of private individuals or corporations and could all be laid low in a single year if the owners so desired. In face of these facts we find certain classes calling loudly for the sale of our timber at prices so low that it can be cut at a profit to all parties handling the product.

The call comes through two classes: 1st, those who desire to purchase the land to make money from the timber. 2d, those who live in townships where large tracts are located and who desire more settlers and better school facilities and less taxes. The first class complain that the price asked for the College lands is so high that nothing can be realized from the timber. This is, perhaps, true, and for the reason

that men cannot afford to cut timber at the prices now paid. There is a general complaint from producers all over the north that only the cream is taken, and barely enough paid for it to pay for labor in getting it out. Is not this fact sufficient to warrant the holding of our lands until they are worth the price asked? Why this haste to despoil our forests if there is no value in the product? If these men desire to cut timber for fun let them buy of the railroad companies who still own thousands of acres, and if they desire to clear up land for homes let them take some of the old choppings above referred to; they should certainly get them cheaper.

The second class have more sense in their argument, and wherever it has been advisable a low price has been placed on certain lands on which the timber was not valuable, either from fires or other causes, in townships where large tracts existed. This matter of having large bodies of College lands within their borders was made the basis of argument for lower valuation before the state board of equalization by many northern counties, and all of them were given a very nice reduction in valuation. Enough good lands not now valuable for timber can be had in any township where these large tracts are located to fill all the wants of probable settlers for many years. The matter of taxes has been adjusted for these northern counties by the state board of equalization, and the board of supervisors has the power to take care of the several townships in each county. Our idea then is to hold these lands until the prices asked for them can be realized. They are held none too high and the rates fixed by you at this last appraisal are lower than the prices asked by land owners and railroad lands in their immediate vicinity. It is due to our state that these little blocks of timber should be retained to represent what we once were as long as is possible.

The lands lying along the railroad lines are always in danger of being burned over during the dry season and should be offered at a price at which they will sell, and as the damage becomes greater it may be necessary to re-appraise such lands in order to realize upon them and save the remaining timber.

#### HOW SAVE THE TIMBER THAT IS NOW ANNUALLY WASTED?

There is each year a certain amount of timber going to waste from various causes, such as fires, windfalls and ripening. At present the laws of this state do not allow the disposal of any such timber, and thousands of dollars worth of state timber is wasted each year. Large timber owners, such as David Ward, the G. R. & I. R. R. Co. and others, dispose of their down and overripe timber each year and not only save the value of such timber but save the remainder from fires, which might catch in the windfalls and destroy much more. The state should be allowed to do the same with its forests, and when a tract is turned over, or a parcel laid low by high winds, the timber should be at once looked after and such disposition made as would insure against further loss. The state now employs a state trespass agent with two deputies who attempt to look after the trespasses of all men on the public lands, those belonging to the College included. As before stated the work of these officers has been to settle up, not to prevent, and they do not have time to get over the lands often enough to do any more thorough work.

Our board of agriculture should be in closer touch with the property of the College which lies in these forests—they should know of each lot that is sold, to whom, and on what conditions; they should be in position to know just what is being done, if anything, on each part-paid parcel—and they should be able to better the financial condition of the College by saving what is now going to waste. Some person selected by this board should be given general supervision of these matters, and of the trespassing, so as to prevent it. This agent should make weekly reports, or more often, if necessary, to the secretary of the board, and to the commissioner of state lands with whose office he should always be in harmony. Such an agent could more than pay the expense of the position and effectually stop the stealing from College lands. The present ruling of the board with regard to selling the lands at one-quarter down, and no timber to be cut until all is paid for, is the only safe one, but all lands so sold will require watching just as closely as by the previous system. The prevention will be much easier under this system, however, than the other, as it has been difficult to restrain where cutting was once commenced.

#### New Fruits from our Institute Work.

PROF. A. J. COOK, '62.

#### AN ARTICLE DELIVERED BEFORE A FARMERS' CLUB IN CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA, WHICH CONTAINS SOME SUGGESTIONS WORTHY OF CONSIDERATION BY OUR INSTITUTE WORKERS.

It has been my happy privilege to be connected with the Farmers' Institute movement, intimately, in five of the states where that work has attained the most marked success. From the time of the inauguration of the Institutes in Michigan—1875—to the time that I left the state to come to my adopted home, Southern California—1893—I was one of the conductors of the annual institutes. For two winters I was engaged by that wonderful organizer, the late Mr. W. H. Morrison,

of Wisconsin, who was the father of the Farmers' Institute enterprise of that state, to aid in this university extension work in the Badger state. For two winters I was employed to work in New York with such men as Woodward, the Powells, and Curtiss. One winter I worked with Chamberlin and Bonham in the great state of Ohio. Thus I had an admirable opportunity to study the methods of each and all of these states. When I was employed to supervise the Farmers' Institutes of Southern California I desired to incorporate all that was good in the states of the east, and to build on to those other important features that hard thought and study might suggest.

While in Michigan we conceived the idea of annual Farmers' Institutes in each county, although the state Agricultural College under whose auspices the Institutes were held conducted only six in the year. Thus at each Institute under my charge the last three years I was in Michigan we endeavored to organize an annual Institute which should be held independent of aid from the state. In the preliminary meeting to arrange for the Institute I urged the importance of such action and at the Institutes such action was secured.

During the last few years Farmers' Clubs have become quite general in several of the states. In many cases these clubs have become very influential. Their work and reputation not infrequently has become recognized throughout the state, and often beyond (Continued to page five.)

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For various reasons THE M. A. C. RECORD is occasionally sent to those who have not subscribed for the paper. Such persons need have no hesitation about taking the paper from the postoffice, for no charge will be made for it. The only way, however, to secure the RECORD regularly is to subscribe.

With this number the M. A. C. RECORD completes its first year of publication. In its pages have been recorded, for the passing hour and for future history, the events of an unusually active and successful college year. Several important changes have been chronicled during this period: a remodeled course of study has been put in operation, giving more time for practical agriculture and horticulture in the first year and greater freedom in the choice of studies later in the course; the long vacation has been changed from winter to summer; and finally a course for ladies has been established and started on a successful career. Increased attendance has taken place in all of the departments, and the year has been marked by earnest, steady work.

Now for the holiday vacation, with its rest and recreation before entering upon the duties of 1897. Let each throw aside for the time being all thoughts of study and become once more for a couple of weeks part of the life "down on the old home farm." We lose something by going away to College, notwithstanding all we gain, and need these opportunities to keep in touch with home surroundings and the realities of common existence. Let each repair once more to his or her accustomed place in the many gatherings which cluster about this season of the year in school house, church or at the social fireside, not forgetting as opportunity offers to contribute a bit of genuine labor here and there to improve the comfort or cheerfulness of the old home itself.

And as we meet again old friends and neighbors let us tell them about the College, especially of the short courses in live stock, dairying, fruit growing and floriculture to begin next month, and send in the names of such as are interested, that copies of the RECORD and circulars of information may be mailed to them. All over the state are earnest young men and women who need such opportunities as the College affords and who only require that some one should tell them who knows of these opportunities. And now, with Christmas and New Year's greetings to all, the RECORD takes a little vacation itself to meet its readers again at the opening of next term.

It is desired by the board of managers that all who wish the privileges of the Co-operative association procure their membership certificates at once.

## Individualism in Society.

[Second prize oration, by John W. Rigterink, '97, of the Union Literary Society.]

directly upon the advancement of its individual members. Slowly has the world learned to accept this vital truth. Formerly the interests of the many were sacrificed in favor of the few. The state was everything; man, nothing. In the feudal period a man could seldom escape from the village in which he was born except by the gate of death. He was made prisoner there by the law of the land, by his own poverty and ignorance, and by the scarcity of other than agricultural pursuits. His body was his lord's and the priest took charge of his soul. His life, indeed, must have been as monotonous and thoughtless as that of a beast of burden.

But a change came—the voice of Liberty was heard. When the barons forced King John to sign the Magna Charta the fate of tyrants was sealed. Though they subsequently struggled long and hard they were forced to yield. What mighty strides the world has since taken! Where darkness and superstition prevailed light has sprung up; where oppression made life miserable liberty has sent its benediction of peace. Under the old regime the current of thought flowed in one stream; now in a thousand channels. What has wrought this marvelous change? Is it not individualism in society?

This brings us to the consideration of two questions, individualism and socialism, each of which has its own peculiar influence upon the moulding of society.

True individualism is the right of all members of society to use their own powers in their own way—either individually or by voluntary co-operation—for the gratification of their own wants. In theory this right is limited only by the equal right of every other member of society. In fact, however, it can never be enjoyed so long as the earth, on which the material wants of all depend, is monopolized by a few, while others can enjoy the fruits of production only under the conditions imposed by the favored or the strong.

Socialism, on the other hand, is the direction by the State without regard to individual desire, of all agencies of production and distribution. Its most objectionable feature is the coercion which so abridges personal liberty as actually to render the individual a slave to the state. This is, in fact, the chief characteristic of the system. All efforts of its advocates to substitute an ideal individual equality without serious limitation to personal independence amount only to a presentation of that voluntary co-operation which individualism implies.

The frequent abuse of individualism leads us to many shocking practices and a frightful tendency toward socialism. This may possibly be attributed to the view which is often taken of individualism; for, as a matter of fact, there are two forms of individualism easily to be distinguished.

There is a lower individualism which is purely and simply private selfishness and not a theory of the proper relation of the state to its citizens. It cares nothing for the common welfare. It is the old enemy which religion and morals have always had to fight.

And then a higher individualism is possible and has long been actual. It respects each person as having something of infinite inherited worth in him. It would begin to reform the world in a single spirit, counting no

advance permanent not founded on reformed individuals.

Some claim that individualism diminishes charity. However much the socialist may have done for man through charity and public spirit, yet the amount done by the mass of men and women outside of their organization can never be lost sight of. And to say that individualism would leave those naturally incapable of the struggle for existence at the mercy of the elements, is certainly to deny to humanity those humane qualities which have marked our civilization.

The aim of socialism is to remove as far as possible undesirable individual care and effort. A considerable amount of regular exertion is essential to individual character and national progress. John Stuart Mill says, "A people among whom there is no habit of spontaneous action for collective interest, who habitually look to their government to command or prompt them in all matters of joint concern, have their faculties only half developed; their education is defective in one of the most important branches."

The condition of men in the tropical regions, where the bounty of nature accomplishes what socialists would have governments of the temperate zones achieve—the gratification of individual desire with the minimum of individual effort and anxiety—is a strong argument for individualism and against socialism. Another we find in the innate desire for ownership. Arthur Young has well said, "Give a man but the secure possession of a bleak rock and he will turn it into a garden." "Mine" and "Ours" are the essential ideas of family and home, both of which are incompatible with any scheme of socialism ever suggested or tried. We all have an inborn love of privacy, security and possession.

The spirit of true individualism is voluntary co-operation. In the socialistic state there would be no room for small associations to carry out any reforms or plans of philanthropy. The state would overshadow and blight every such attempt. The individual would be pauperized and the state magnified continually.

Consider for a moment reforms demanded by the sober thinkers of today and see how voluntary action would work on the plan of higher individualism. One or more members find something wrong, out of adjustment, and forthwith endeavor to adjust it; only those who feel the wrong take part in the effort to set it right. No one's individuality is forced. A striking example in the line of needed reforms is our tenement houses. Here we find congregated in filth the element from which society has most to fear—the uneducated foreigner. What has government done to improve his condition? The only solution practicable seems, not government intervention, but reforms accomplished by individual effort. Here we find many noble men and women who have dedicated their lives to this kind of work. The work of Mrs. Alice N. Lincoln will never be forgotten. George Peabody gives us a striking example of such a reform by his gift of \$2,500,000, which now affords pleasant and healthful homes at a low rent for 30,000 people in the city of London. Great public libraries and institutions of learning have been established through personal benevolence. These examples give us a general idea of the reforms that can be accomplished by purely individual effort. In every phase of our social life mankind in the

mass needs its reforms and its leaders. It wants them in the regiment, the ship, the factory, the shop, at school, in congress, in courts of justice, in science and opinion.

He who braves opposition must often suffer calumny and abuse. Yet this is the record of all reformers whom the world calls great. The hands that sow are not the hands that reap. How often earth's greatest benefactors have been despised and rebuked by one generation and honored by the next? But their principles have stood the test of criticism. It is in this way that all true reforms are made. It is not due to a simple impulse, but to the life work of individuals who have showed the how and why of affairs. Even in our socialistic Germany we can trace the fact that the reformed individual is the back bone of society, that the development of man, not the establishment of institutions, is the true aim of our national life. Goethe, the poet, raised his voice unheeded by princes; Luther raised the cry and prepared the way for individual conscience; Frederick the Great conceived himself in the service of a power greater than himself; Leibnitz by rejecting beliefs incompatible with reason made the same cry for the individual intellect.

Every developed individuality is far more desirous of improving life in this way than the individuality that is, so to speak, stereotyped. Many lines of argument converge to the conclusion that intolerance and suppression of individuality should lessen as civilization increases, that state regulation of affairs should be narrowed in its scope as the lives of men grow wider and more complex. State action stiffens, stereotypes individuality; and by its legislation fossilizes, atrophies whole organs of activity. It tells people their poor are looked after, their children educated. Healthy exercise is stopped, stiffness sets in, and life is rendered less complete. Whether we consider the individual or community, whether we examine it in the abstract or the concrete, whether we look for mental or moral progress, we emphatically assert that for a complex society progress is greatest where state action has given way to the largest extent to voluntary action of the individual.

Whether we recognize the fact or not there is not a phase of our social or national life that is not affected by a lack of proper development of individuality. The whole tendency of our civilization has been to make all people as nearly as possible alike. Those of a marked individuality are relegated to a so-called class of "cranks." To differ with general sentiment is decidedly bad form. The work of taking out of people characteristics placed in them by nature and making them over into people who think and do as others, has marked our civilization from its earliest stages. Among the results is the loss of great spirit and mental vitality. It is time to call a halt, to change our methods, to encourage individual training, to attain true individualism, and make our country free in fact as well as in name.

### Beware of the Union Suit.

We have all heard of the tricks of folding beds, when not properly constructed or judiciously managed, and now comes the unfortunate experience of a man near Chicago, who was out in a drizzling rain having put on a union suit. After drying, it shrunk so that he could not get his feet to the ground.

**New Fruits from Our Institute Work.**

(Continued from page three.)

state lines. The valuable work and influence of these clubs is multiple in character. They create a wholesome social atmosphere; replace suspicion in the community with confidence; do much to secure neatness and adornment in all the precincts of the home; tend to make the best methods of culture and management the universal method in all the region; work powerfully to stimulate thought, study, and a better power of expression among all the members of the club; may have a mighty influence to discover unjust laws, and evils of legislation, and work successfully to change them. I believe, as the result of considerable observation and study, that such clubs may become one of the most powerful agents for good, in our country, association is one of the most desirable consummations to be effected in our agricultural economy. Yet farmers from their isolation and necessarily retired lives are suspicious, even of each other, and slow to organize associations. The club will do more than any other one thing to effect a change in this respect.

Thus it was that when I was asked to direct the Farmers' Institute of Southern California, that I conceived the plan to make each Institute the parent of one or more live influential Farmers' Clubs. So far as I know no state Institute before ours has attempted this work. In the two years which have elapsed about twenty such clubs have been successfully organized, and many of them are now doing most effective service. Southern California has much to boast of in way of scenery, climate and fertility and productiveness of her soil; yet I believe her greatest superiority consists in the culture, ability, and intelligence of her rural population. I believe it will be hard to estimate the good that may come to us if a live, wide awake club be organized and wisely conducted in each neighborhood. If the Farmers' Institutes continue as they have been going for the past two years we shall soon see the ample fruits of these organizations in all our rural districts.

But I believe we are not yet at the end of the good work and influence of our Farmers' Institutes.

I believe that there are two more enterprises that we may now undertake which can be made of great service in promoting a higher and better system of agricultural practice in our beloved Southern California. The first can be organized in the Institutes, and carried out much easier and quicker through the influence of the clubs; I refer to a Farm Home Reading Circle. Such circles are already in operation in several states and are very popular, as well they may be. This plan contemplates giving to each person who may desire to take it, a course of study in farm or orchard economy, in general farming and stock breeding; home making and political science. Books will be advised in each of these lines, and if desired an examination may be given on each subject pursued, and a certificate given by the University that the course has been satisfactorily completed. I have not as yet consulted the university authorities, but I believe they will co-operate to make this plan in the highest degree successful. The works to be pursued will be of high character, but not technical, so that any one who is willing to work may easily and satisfactorily master them. These works will be secured at wholesale rates, and the only expense in taking the course will be the purchase of

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the books, and this will be quite insignificant. I am certain that such a scheme can be carried to high success here, and will add another glory to the accomplishments of our Farmers' Institutes of Southern California.

The other accomplishment which I desire to have considered is something like the wind-up Institute of Wisconsin. It shall be understood that each year there shall be a great central annual meeting, which shall be composed of delegates from each of the clubs. I believe a better use can be made of this meeting than that of Wisconsin, valuable as that is. There they have the several leading speakers of the several Institutes to give addresses which in essence are very like those given at the Institutes. These have been summarized over and over in the papers; and so while a personal presentation give emphasis and added vividness and value, it occurs to me that a council of all the clubs, bringing to this central meeting the fruits of their experiments, discussions, plans for co-operation, in attempting the formation of exchanges, the influencing of legislation, the reduction of salaries and taxes might all be considered and such united action determined upon as would work powerfully for the betterment of our entire population. Indeed I need not so limit this benfaction for whatever aids the great producing classes touches with benefit all classes of society.

I believe we may so co-operate as to make this home reading circle and the annual meeting of the clubs another jewel in the crown of enterprises that we may expect to lift Southern California still higher in the rank of enlightened civilization than that even which she has already attained. And thus I bespeak of each and all of you, that you lend your aid to the work of establishing and making most useful a wide awake club in each neighborhood. You each to work in your own immediate neighborhood, and further that we all, as clubs, take up the farm Home Reading Circle, urging all who wish to study more thoroughly into the principles of agriculture to take the course, and finally that we all keep in view the idea of the annual club meeting, that we may each carry to it something that will stimulate and aid the entire body to the highest and best accomplishments.

**Colonel McCreary Dead.**

Col. William B. McCreary died at his home in Flint, Thursday, December 10. For twenty-seven years he was a resident of Flint and one of Michigan's most influential citizens. From 1882 to 1890 he was a member of the state board of agriculture and one of the staunchest friends of the College. He was mayor of Flint two years, collector of internal revenue under President Grant, state treasurer four years, and consul to Valparaiso, Chile, two years.

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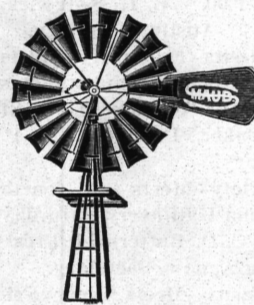
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**Additional At College.**

Gager C. Davis left last week with his household goods, for Redlands, California, where he will make his future home.

Miss Lu Baker entertained the Saugatuck crowd at tea last Saturday evening.

Prof. Smith returned yesterday from Washington, where he went to attend the funeral of his brother.

Not long since we saw two of the girls standing in front of Alsdorf's drug store while their escorts were inside treating themselves at the soda fountain. Wonder if this is a "new woman" idea.

**At the Institutes.**

In the new northern counties we find the clearness of the air and the pure spring water or something else tends sometimes to make people exaggerate in their statements. Everything up that way is "big;" trout are large and numerous in every brook, deer were never more abundant. If you exhibit a Canada thistle or a bunch of grass or sheet of clover, it isn't so tall as they can grow on their soil. We heard very little complaint of hard times.

One of the oldest residents of Mio, the county seat, Oscoda county, is John Ranall. He is a tall and striking figure and is noted for his enterprise. He is editor of the town paper, county surveyor, proprietor of a dry goods store, brick yard, shingle mill, saw mill, the leading stockholder and manager of the telephone and water works, and a dealer in real estate. Last year he was secretary of the farmers' institute, this year he was president. W. J. B.

**Where the Money Went.**

The vicar of a rural parish who had waxed eloquent on the subject of foreign missions one Sunday, was surprised on entering the village shop during the week to be greeted with marked coldness by the worthy dame who kept it. On seeking to know the cause, the good woman produced a coin from a drawer, and throwing it down before the vicar, exclaimed: "I marked that holy crown and put it in the plate last Sunday, and here it is back again in my shop. I knowed well them niggers never got the money."

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Y. M. C. A.—Holds regular meetings every Thursday evening at 6:30 and Sunday evenings at 7:30. S. H. Fulton, President. C. W. Loomis, Cor. Secretary.

Y. W. C. A. regular weekly meetings for all ladies on the campus Tuesday evenings at 8 o'clock, in the ladies' parlors. Meetings on Sunday evenings with the Y. M. C. A.; Miss Edith F. McDermott, President; Miss Alice Georgia, Cor. Secretary.

M. A. C. Grange—Meets every three weeks on Tuesday evening in the Columbian Society rooms. Prof. C. D. Smith, Master. H. W. Hart, Secretary.

Natural History Society—Regular meeting second Friday evening of each month in the chapel at 7:00. H. C. Skeels, President. W. R. Kedzie, Secretary.

Botanical Club—Meets first and third Friday of each month in the Botanical Laboratory at 6:30. T. Gunson, President. W. R. Kedzie, Secretary.

Dante Club—Meets every Wednesday evening at 7:30 in Prof. W. O. Hedrick's office, College Hall. Prof. A. B. Noble, President.

M. A. C. Athletic Association—C. B. Laitner, President. G. B. Wells, Secretary.

Columbian Literary Society—Regular meeting every Saturday evening in their rooms in the middle ward of Wells Hall, at 7:00. E. H. Sedgwick, President. C. F. Austin, Secretary.

Delta Tau Delta Fraternity—Meets Friday evenings in the chapter rooms on fourth floor of Williams Hall, at 7:00. E. A. Baker, President. C. P. Wykes, Secretary.

Eclectic Society—Meets on fourth floor of Williams Hall every Saturday at 7:30 p. m. C. D. Butterfield, President. Manning Agnew, Secretary.

Feronian Society—Meets every Friday afternoon at 1:00 in Hesperian rooms. Miss Sadie Champion, President. Miss Marie Belliss, Secretary.

Hesperian Society—Meetings held every Saturday evening in the society rooms in the west ward of Wells Hall

at 7:00. J. D. McLouth, President. R. H. Osborne, Secretary.

Olympic Society—Meets on fourth floor of Williams Hall every Saturday evening at 7:00. H. W. Hart, President. C. J. Perry, Secretary.

Phi Delta Theta Fraternity—Meets on Friday evening in chapter rooms in Wells Hall, at 7:00. W. G. Amos, President. F. H. Smith, Secretary.

Union Literary Society—Meetings held in their hall every Saturday evening at 7:00. E. A. Robinson, President. S. F. Edwards, Secretary.

Tau Beta Pi Fraternity—Meets every two weeks on Thursday evening in the tower room of Mechanical Laboratory. G. A. Parker, President. E. H. Sedgwick, Secretary.

Club Boarding Association—I. L. Simmons, President. H. A. Dibble, Secretary.

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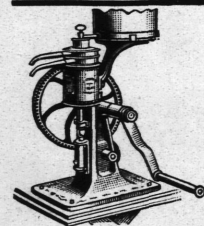
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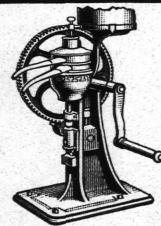
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THE OUTFITTER.

**News from Graduates and Students.**

James Y. Clark, '85, visited the College, Saturday.

Orlando Elliot, with '95, is deputy postmaster at Tawas City.

H. B. Gunnison, with '98m, visited his brother here last Saturday.

Horace E. Blodgett, with '84, attended the institute at Grayling.

Fred Golling, with '97, was in charge of the telephone system of the A. S. & N. W. road during the past summer.

John Severance, with '98, has just commenced a second term of school near East Jordan. He will return to College in the spring.

Frank E. Hoppins, with '97m, since leaving College last year has been teaching near Mancelona. He expects to return to M. A. C. next year.

While attending a teachers' institute at Wayne, E. C. Green, '97, met Wm. Lightbody, '89, who is now principal of the Higgins school, Detroit, Mich.

Fred H. Anthony, with '96m, is working for Wannamaker, of Philadelphia, in the interest of the Century Dictionary. He is at present stationed at Boston.

H. R. Smith, '95, is in charge of the department of science and mathematics in the Tilford Collegiate Academy, Vinton, Iowa. He hopes to attend the "Triennial" next year.

The *State Republican* is authority for the statement that J. H. Brown, with '81, and A. C. Bird, '83, are both candidates for appointment to a position on the State Board of Agriculture.

Clarence Hathaway, with '92m, is spending the fall visiting in East Tawas. He is blessing a struggling class in German with stray bits he picked up at M. A. C. during the stirring times from '88 to '92.

J. B. Dimmick, with '93m, is still employed as civil engineer on the D. & M. R. R. It is said that John is the only one of the original survey crew that started out for this road that still holds his job. Good for him.

A. C. Sly, '91, was editor of the Roscommon *Democrat* for two years after leaving College; later, county commissioner of schools, and at present is deputy county treasurer. He is a hustler. He attended and took an active part in the Farmers' Institute.

Jason E. Hammond, '86, gave a dinner party to nine of the College people last Wednesday. Those present were: Jason Woodman, '81; A. C. Bird, '83; C. B. Collingwood, '85; H. E. Thomas, '85; P. G. Towar, '85; P. B. Woodworth, '86; K. L. Butterfield, '91, and Dr. R. C. Kedzie.

Clifford C. Curnalia, with '92, after graduating in a Detroit school for actors and following the business for a year or so, became dissatisfied with his choice and took a course in the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, and is now practicing in Roscommon county.

J. Burt Keely, with '92, has been deputy postmaster at Roscommon. Last spring he began traveling for the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company. He succeeded so well that he has been appointed district manager of Sanilac and St. Clair counties for the Northwestern Insurance Company of Chicago.

The office of assistant cashier of the Peninsular Savings bank, left vacant by the promotion of John H. Johnson to the office of cashier, has been filled by the appointment of Charles F. Lawson to the position. Mr. Lawson is 32 years old and a graduate of the Michi-

gan Agricultural College ['86]. Eight years ago he became receiving teller of the Peninsular bank, later being promoted to the position of paying teller. —*Detroit Free Press.*

W. F. Johnson, with '91, of Roscommon, was re-elected secretary of the farmers' institute association. He was appointed clerk of the house committee on railroads in the legislature of '89, and thus strayed away from his class. He has been county clerk and register of deeds of Roscommon county for the past two years, and this fall was re-elected. He was raised on a farm and has great faith in Northern Michigan as a farming country. He has a wife and two children and expresses great regret at not having finished his course at M. A. C. He likes the Record.

**Board of Agriculture.**

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- Hon. Chas. W. Garfield. .Grand Rapids.
- Hon. Chas. F. Moore.....St. Clair.
- Hon. C. J. Monroe.....South Haven.
- Hon. Henry Chamberlain, Three Ooaks.
- Hon. W. E. Boyden.....Delhi Mills.
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- Hon. I. H. Butterfield, Secy... Mich. Agr. College.

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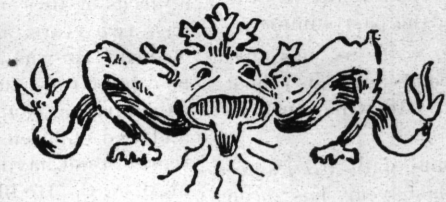
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