LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

MADISON, Wis., January 15, 1901.
To His Excellency, ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE,
Governor of Wisconsin.

SIR:— I have the honor to submit herewith as required by Chapter 121, Laws of 1899, my report as Commissioner, appointed by the legislature "to investigate the methods of procedure in this and other states and countries in giving instruction in manual training and in the theory and art of agriculture in the public schools."

In the discharge of the duties imposed upon me by law, I have made an extended and careful study of what has been attempted in the fields of agricultural instruction and manual training in this and other countries.

Addresses on the subject of instruction in agriculture, its possibilities and advantages, have been given at farmers' institutes and other gatherings of farmers and others interested in the agricultural development of the state, in probably twenty counties.

Through the co-operation of the board of regents of normal schools, at my request, a plan has been inaugurated by which the seven institute conductors from the state normal schools have been assigned for work in twenty-eight of the agricultural counties of the state. Under this plan, each conductor will spend a week in each of four counties visiting the district schools each day, and addressing meetings of farmers each evening. In each of these addresses these men will present the desirability and advantages of instruction in the ele-

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ments of agriculture and domestic economy for country boys and girls. Every effort will be made by the conductors, with the co-operation of the county superintendents, to awaken new and larger interest on the part of the people, in the education of the country boys and girls.

During the two years, I have made addresses in many of the cities of the state on the subject of manual training, and an extensive correspondence has been carried on for the purpose of arousing an interest in this subject, and in instruction in agriculture and domestic economy. As a result of these efforts, calls are coming for addresses upon these subjects from so many localities that my entire time could be devoted to this work.

Conferences have been had and correspondence carried on with recognized leaders in the field of agricultural instruction for the purpose of securing their judgments as to ways and means for inaugurating this work in the public schools.

With the hope that the efforts thus far put forth may not be without value, and that some provision may be made for further effort in the same direction, until tangible results are secured, this report is respectfully submitted, I am,

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
L. D. Harvey,
Commissioner.