

AMONG OURSELVES

A HOUSE ORGAN FOR THE STAFF OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

EXPERIMENT
STATION

RESIDENT

INSTRUCTION

EXTENSION
SERVICE

Vol. 1, No. 11.

June 21, 1923.

A REVISION AND EXTENSION OF THE WISCONSIN SHORT COURSE is to be put into operation this coming fall. The Board of Regents have just approved the recent action of the Agricultural Faculty with references to these changes.

Under the new schedule the first year of work in the Short Course remains virtually unchanged, but the second year is completely revised. The new schedule reduces the number of hours of work and makes the courses entirely elective for the second year, thereby permitting a greater degree of specialization. Provision is also made for college credit if the work is up to a certain standard. By this plan Short Course students may elect an additional winter of work, making a three-year schedule. With students possessing necessary entrance credits for Long or Middle Courses, credits for agricultural work will be allowed if standings are satisfactory.

The specialization which the course now makes possible and the elective nature of the work will undoubtedly make it more attractive to high school boys and to men who have had training in county schools of agriculture or equivalent institutions.

Since the course reduces materially the number of hours of work, especially for first year men, it is expected that it will result in a higher type of work generally, by allowing more time for study and for work in the library.

An effort has also been made to meet the changed conditions in agriculture. Shop work, which is now less essential on the farm because modern means of transportation have greatly lessened the distance factor, has been made elective, while the economic side of farming has been materially strengthened by trebling the work in farm bookkeeping and increasing work in marketing and general economic problems.

These changes are the natural outgrowth of the evolution that is occurring in agricultural education. When the Short Course was founded in the middle eighties, scarcely any of the students had high school training. This last year, of the 193 in residence, 102 had had more or less high school preparation; 59 had had 3 years or more; and 6 had been in college or in normal school work. It is to be hoped that these modifications will still keep this course the main educational feeder for the farm youth of the state who desire to secure that type of training which will prove to be of value to them in assuming the rural obligations of the future.

THE COLLEGE WILL BE HOST TO FARMERS' ON STATION DAY, FRIDAY JUNE 22. All departments are participating in an excellent presentation of interesting exhibit material in the Stock Pavilion. Condition of field plots is now excellent. The recent rains have put all crops in fine condition for showing the work. All staff members are urged to join our friends at the noon day lunch in the woods by the lake.

The presentation of the portrait of our colleague, R.A. Moore, will be made at the Hill Farm right after the noon lunch. In this ceremony T.H. Campion, president of the Wisconsin Experiment Association, will preside and Walter Hanchett of Sparta will be the principal speaker. Dean Russell will accept the portrait on behalf of the University.

THE SECOND ANNUAL WISCONSIN DAIRYMAN'S FIELD DAY was celebrated at Cedar Lawn Farm at West Bend on June 16. The best estimates available place the attendance at between 6,000 and 7,000.

The principal speakers of the day were John D. Jones, Jr., newly elected Commissioner of Agriculture for Wisconsin, Burt Williams representing the Milwaukee Chamber of Commerce, W. W. Marsh of Iowa, and Prof. G. C. Humphrey of this College.

The speakers emphasized the influence which dairying has had upon agriculture in this state and especially the stabilizing tendency in the years following the war. Generous tribute was also paid to the pioneers in the industry, and to the men of science who have contributed much to make its development possible.

The first transcontinental dairy train started on its western trip after the close of the field day celebration. Record crowds greeted this exhibit on its three Wisconsin stops - at New London, Marshfield, and Eau Claire; and the train is now well on its way across Minnesota.

GOV. BLAINE SIGNED THE AMENDED HOLLY PRINTING BILL which continues the control of Station printing in the hands of the College. He also signed last week the Titus Bill providing an appropriation of \$5,000 for improvement in buildings at the Hancock Branch Station. This is one of the very few additional appropriations that will be made this year.

A FARMERS' INSTITUTE COMMITTEE consisting of K. L. Hatch (chairman), E. L. Luther (secretary), three faculty members, and Regent Franklin Nace has been appointed by the Dean to correlate the work of the Extension Service and the Farmers' Institutes, especially as to the winter meetings. This committee will develop a plan for the consideration of the Regents in the fall.

WILDFIRE, A RELATIVELY NEW BACTERIAL INFECTION OF TOBACCO which first made its appearance in Wisconsin last year, has been found again this season in about 14 seed beds. This disease has proven very disastrous in some of the eastern states and, unless vigorous control measures are taken, may seriously threaten the tobacco industry in this state. Up to the present time it appears that the efforts of the Department of Agriculture and the Experiment Station to control the disease are meeting with success, as many farms on which outbreaks occurred last year are entirely free from the disease so far this season.

OF THE 55 DOCTOR'S DEGREES conferred by the University on commencement day, 23 were given in Agriculture; and of the 191 Master's degrees given, this College had 50.

SIXTY BOYS AND GIRLS AND TEN LEADERS REPRESENTING 19 WISCONSIN COUNTIES were in attendance at the Young Peoples' One Week Short Course at the College of Agriculture June 15 - 20.

These 22 girls and 38 boys were the champions in the various agricultural and Home Economics projects throughout the state. The following counties were represented: Brown, Chippewa, Crawford, Green, Juneau, Kenosha, Lincoln, Marathon, Marquette, Milwaukee, Monroe, Oneida, Ozaukee, Pierce, Racine, Vernon, Walworth, Waukesha, and Washington.