The ability to measure the value of an animal for a given purpose is a very practical accomplishment for the farmer and stock breeder alike. The success of some of our most noted stock breeders and our best farmers has been due in large measure to the fact that they were able to distinguish between the really useful animal and the one which is simply pleasing to look at.

Like other highly desirable accomplishments, this ability comes slowly. To be a successful judge, one must first study the whole subject in detail, and then be able only for proficiency after much practice and experience.

I believe, however, that some men are natural live stock judges, so to speak; that is, they appear to have an instinct, an inborn discrimination that is almost invariable. Such men become competent judges seemingly without much effort on their part. On the other hand, some men never seem to acquire skill, although they may work ever so faithfully. The more we know of this subject the more we are convinced that we must recognize a certain natural taste, a fine discrimination, in the individual as a necessary qualification of a man who would hope to become thoroughly competent as a judge of farm animals. Much can be done, however, to correct this natural deficiency by proper study and training. The individual, too, with the natural good judgment will improve rapidly by giving a little time to the systematic study and practice of judging animals. Long and varied experience is almost indispensable to give accuracy.

At the Michigan Agricultural College one of the practical features of the Agricultural course is the instruction and work in stock judging. The herds and flocks containing many typical animals of the leading breeds of live stock, furnish ample opportunity for the student to become conversant with their leading characteristics and their adaptability to every day conditions on the farm.

Believing that the score card is one of the most effectual methods of teaching the beginner; it is largely used in our work in judging stock. It is not urged or suggested that the score card should be used in the show ring or by the farmer in selecting stock for breeding or feeding purposes, but as an educator of the student with but little or no experience it is found valuable.

A careful study and the continued use of the score card will teach: First, habits of close observation. Second, the relative importance of the different points of stock and how these points vary with types. Without the score card the novice will not be thorough or systematic in his work. A separate and somewhat different score card is used for each variety as well as each type of farm animals.

We give below the score card used by students in judging dairy cattle:

### DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL AGRICULTURE.
MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

#### SCORE CARD B.—DAIRY COWS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scale of Points</th>
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<td>100</td>
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#### General Appearance:
- Age—Estimated; corrected.
- Weight—Estimated; corrected.
- Form—Wedge-shaped, viewed from front, side and above.
- Quality—Hair fine; skin soft; medium thickness; bone clean.
- Temperament—Nervous.

#### Head:
- Maxes—Clean cut; mouth large; nostrils large; face lean, long and dishing.
- Eyes—Full, mild, bright.
- Forehead—Broad.
- Ears—Medium size, fine texture.
- Horn—Small at base.

#### Forequarter:
- Neck—Thin, medium length.
- Withers—Lean, short.
- Shoulders—Light, oblique.
- Arms—Short, straight, clean boned.

#### Body:
- Brisket—Thin, sharp.
- Chest—Deep; large; rounded; 1 ft. ins.
- Belly—Well sprung, broad, far apart.
- Bellies—Large, roomy.
- Hips—Wide, prominent, open.
-back—Upright, lean.
- Legs—Broad.
- Teats—Large.
- Navel—Large.

#### Headquarters:
- Hips—Wide apart.
- Rump—Long and high.
- Pin Bones or Thurls—High, wide apart.
- Thigh—Thin, incurring.
- Tail—Fine, lean.
- Breastbone—Spreading and high.
- Udder—Long, not flatly, attached high, quarters even.
- Teats—Large, evenly placed.
- Milk Veins—Large, tortuous, branching.
- Milk Wells—Large.
- Legs—Short, clean boned, far apart.

#### Total:

The ability to measure the value of an animal for a given purpose is a very practical accomplishment for the farmer and stock breeder alike. The success of some of our most noted stock breeders and our best farmers has been due in large measure to the fact that they were able to distinguish between the really useful animal and the one which is simply pleasing to look at.

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- Milk Veins—Large, tortuous, branching.
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#### Total:

I was pleased to meet this bird on the College farm, for it is a species that is attracting much attention among the ornithologists of this state, as it is a peculiarly interesting little bird, and it has many winning ways, that make it a most desirable inhabitant of our fields and meadows.

This summer, season being more common throughout the state, Dr. Morris Gibbs, of Kalamazoo, says that it was not known in Michigan twenty years ago, but now we find it occurring in many places in the southern part of our state; and each summer we find it inhabiting new regions where it was formerly very rare or never seen at all.

I cannot find a single record of the occurrence of this bird in the locality about the College, prior to this season, and it is quite evident that this year marks the beginning of the Black-throated Bunting among us. Prof. Cook, in his "Birds of Michigan," records them as "rare at the College," but Mr. L. Whitney Watkins, who did four years of earnest work in studying the birds of this region, tells us that in all his field work, he failed to meet a single Dickcissel. If anyone can give information as to the appearance of this bird in this county at any past time, it would be of interest to hear from him.

Those who reside in the neighborhood of a field where the Dickcissel is abundant must certainly be acquainted with it, for it is a very conspicuous bird, and its song is so characteristic and is uttered so frequently that even the most casual observer could not pass it by unnoticed.

The favorite home of the Dickcissel is the clover field. Here we find it from about the middle of May till late in the summer. During a good share of this period, the male bird is in song. We hear him restlessly hopping till suspended from a prominent perch on some fence-post or tree-top, or other conspicuous place. He is probably singing to his little mate, which we may find concealed on her nest beneath the clover or the foliage of a small tree or bush.

Its song could hardly pass for music, but from the cheerful and earnest spirit with which it is uttered, we cannot help but admire it. It consists of two notes followed by a short unmusical jingle.

One writer, on hearing the bird sing, fancied it to say, "Look! Look! See me here!" This is not only descriptive of the song, but also of the spirit of the bird, for it seems that the one great object of its life is to attract attention and to make itself noticed above all other birds of the field.

The Dickcissel belongs to a family of birds with our sparrows, finches, grosbeaks, etc. In form and size it resembles our common English sparrow, and at a distance, it might easily be taken for this bird, were it not for its yellow breast and black throat, which distinguish it from every other member of the sparrow family that is found in this locality.

The Dickcissel is peculiarly distributed throughout its habitat. In many places the bird is found abundant while in others that are as well adapted as a home for the species, it is never seen at all. It is the only bird of this family to be found west of the Mississippi. The Dickcissel is abundant here, beyond a radius of about
A half mile I never saw one nor heard of one being seen in that quarter.

At present in this locality the Dickcissel is common on the college farm, but it is found most abundant at Champaign.

The Dickcissel is a bird that we may welcome to our fields. It is not only an interesting bird, but is a friend to man in every way. They seem to prefer high, rather than low lands, and they occupy our Davis fields, but they are truly beneficial birds, as Prof. Forbes has shown that fully one-half of their food consists of weevils and grasshoppers.

At the College.

Miss Pearl Kechie is home from Olivet.

Prof. Frank Kechie was in Saginaw Wednesday.

The Eclectic Society gave a party last Friday evening.

The Students are taking “Russian” agriculture from 7 to 7:45 a.m.

Harry Metic, a brother of W. J. Meece, ’96, is visiting at the College.

George Williams, ’96 a., received a visit from his father last Wednesday.

The Union Literary Society entertained their lady friends last Saturday evening.

Stanley Partridge is spending the summer with his brother in Crossfield.

The Delta Tau Delta Fraternity held an alumni meeting Friday evening, June 10.

G. H. True, instructor in drawing, is spending a few weeks at his home in Winona.

Mrs. C. D. Smith, returned to M. A. C. last Wednesday from a six-weeks’ visit at her old home in New York.

Miss F. O. Wyman, and wife, of Grand Ledge, old friends of D. J. Crosby, spent part of Friday on the grounds.

D. J. Hindley, Offter’s pitcher, who recently graduated from the Central College, was the guest of John Tracy a part of last week.

E. L. Becker, who has been very low with pleurisy, is in a fair way to recover rapidly. His mother and two sisters are now with him.

Aldea clover is nicely in flower, narcissus clover just beginning, bulb medick (a clover-like plant first cousin to alfalfa) seems more productive than white clover.

There is a scheme on foot to unite the Botanical Club and Natural History Society with the M. A. C. Grange. It is thought that all will be strengthened thereby.

The Esperanto Society held a declamatory contest on Saturday evening, in which D. J. Hale, ’98, received first prize, a $5 gold piece, and E. B. Hong, ’96, sec- ond, and 25-cent, second prize.

Miss Zina Snyder, formerly a teacher in the public schools of Allegany, Pa., is visiting her brother, President Snyder. She goes next year to a better position in the Kansas City schools.

We recently mentioned the mode of arrangement of our exchanges by counties in a neat case in the Liv- ing room. We now have the exchanges of colleges and schools arranged by states in the same case.

Sections of the Sophomore class in Botany spend one hour per week in examining the peculiarities of trees and shrubs about the campus. Nearly all the class spend an hour in this very valuable work.

Commencement programs in considerable numbers have recently been received; those particularly noticeable are from the State University, where Dr. Angell has been for two years, and from the University of Chicago, now at the close of its fifth year.

The Golden Elder (Sambucus aegro aegro) grows rapidly and in shape much resembles our native Elder. The leaves remain golden yellow all through the summer. Two or three attractive bushes may be seen between the Library and the Horticultural Laboratory.

In the weed garden chives is rampant with its blue flowers, and daffodils, yellow and white, and eggshells spikes of yellow flowers. Moth mullein also shows yellow flowers in the shape of wheels; the common mullein is also thriving. Keys must be taken to see the Seussian thistle and every one is disappointed or surprised at its tancolored insignificant look, while yet only a foot or two high, appearing more like a pigweed than a thistle.

Several large, round-topped chestnut trees on the campus are fragrant, pretty and rather unique for this portion of the State. These trees were planted some twenty-seven years ago. They are absolutely bare of leaves in the fall, as they are now in Wabashen, Wayne, Monroe and one or two ad- joining counties. Low, round-topped basswoods are now full of sweet flowers; the tree is not planted as extensively as the above.

J. B. Grak, E. A. Marshall and their wives, from Charlotte, Eaton county, visited the College on Wednesday. They rode out on the street car from Lansing, and spent the afternoon at the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Raymond.

As is usually found out by such visitors, they soon saw that they had undertaken more than they could ac- complish in one visit. They drove over to Mason Rapids, and saw the name of Bates and Raymond, on the same day, spent several hours looking about, and seemed de- lighted with the College.

In the greenhouse and surrounding grounds it is just now “between hay and grass.” In the houses one of the sweetest things is a woody vine bearing from white flowers known as Stephanotis floribunda. It belongs to the milkweed family, the leaves looking much like those of the wax plant. There are some rare things north of the green house by way of bedding plants.

In an interesting debate on Tuesday afternoon our team was defeated by the Orientals of Lansing. Costly errors in the sixth and seventh lost the game for M. A. C. The battle work of Warren and Adams was especially fine. Score: 3 to 11.

Batteries, Warren and Adams, Reed and Fox; two-base hits, Adams, Crosby; three-base hits, Buermann; strike out, by Warren; 8 by Reed; 2 base on balls, on Warren; 4 on Reed. Unscored Hoyt and Platt.

TROUBLE OF ARMENIA.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE COLLEGE E. M. C. A.

BY OUR ARMENIAN STUDENT.

Being an Armenian, and recently from that country, you expect from me some curious information about those fabulous trees in the cold climate of the winter in every newspaper. Indeed, I have a good deal of news about those troubles and about the real cause of them. I have seen in the news about the Turkish people and government. I have personal and national ideas about the causes of that differ- ence which European powers are showing so much interest. It is well to consider the Armenians and the Mohammedan religion, which, though very familiar to me, would be interesting for Americans. Each of those is a breakable and would furnish material for many essays.

I am sure to say that I shall not be able to con- test you fully, because I don’t know English. In the course of the winter in every newspaper. Indeed, I have a good deal of news about those troubles and about the real cause of them. I have seen in the news about the Turkish people and government. I have personal and national ideas about the causes of that differ- ence which European powers are showing so much interest. It is well to consider the Armenians and the Mohammedan religion, which, though very familiar to me, would be interesting for Americans. Each of those is a breakable and would furnish material for many essays.

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especially the tempering of armor plates under a spray upon, also physical defects, blow-holes, flaws, and the

of Detroit. Being a specialist in this particular field,

and copper. A peculiar manganese steel was

ained by the open-hearth process, which largely ac­

in incomplete synopsis of his remarks follows:

work.

as those who listened for general information. An

observations, and succeeded in pleasing those in

shapes of commerce by hot and cold rolling and by

tern views illustrating the casting of steel ingots,

wheel, armor plates, and the shops of the Bethlehem

iron Works.

Wilkinson, Memorials of the Minnesota Forest Fires.

Wright, Industrial Evolution in the United States.


Pritzel, Thesaurus Literatures Botanicse.

Nocard, Animal Tuberculosis.

Emerson, Two Unpublished Essays.


Elliott, Introduction to the Algebra of Quantics.

Dean, Pishes, Living and Fossil.

Curtis, Voice Building and Tone Placing.

Baltet, L'Horticulture.

Candolle, Origin of Cultivated Plants.

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MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
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OCTOBER 23, 1896.

The M. A. C. Record.

OLD M. A. C. MEN AS VISITORS.

DR. W. J. BEAL.

Occasionally one returns to the College, sometimes after a long absence. Unless he has often been here since he entered in 1857, at the opening of the institution, or, we will say, ten years after that date, he seems dazed at the great changes that have been wrought by time and hard labor. In moving about the campus with some one who is better acquainted with it, he is especially interested in seeing some of the landmarks, which he recognizes. We enumerate a few. There are four houses built of red brick which were made on the campus just west of the parent ground. These houses are now occupied by Doctors Kedzie, Heil, and Edwards, and Prof. Wells, and have all been considerably changed since they were first finished. Over yonder, beyond Williams Hall, with the roof somewhat changed; we used to call it the College, as all the classes met there; besides, it contained the library and museum. "The chapel is in the same room, only the re-estup is now on the south side instead of on the north." Some may not know that the pulpit was designed by Dr. W. J. Beal, professor of agriculture, and the top-piece, made of walnut, was planned and put together by George T. Fairchild, then professor of history and English literature, for a long time past the successful president of Kansas Agricultural College. The Chemical Laboratory used to be in the north east corner of the room now used by Prof. Vedder as a class room. The student of '75 to '79 is conducted to the spot where stood the Old Boarding Hall, familiarly called the "Castles" or the "Residences" of the younger generation, and was situated about six rods east and a little south of where Williams Hall now stands. While undergoing repairs it was turned in the vaca­tion of 1879. Wells Hall over to the east, was soon after erected to take its place. You can still see traces of the shape and place of the walls, the students of today say they have a number of the little marks of the fact that they are treading on sacred ground. It has been proposed to place a plain monument, marking the spot where Williams's Retreat Partner to the southeast our visitor recognizes, back of the Veterinary Laboratory, the old brick horse barn, long since torn down, and the old barn with its small window-lights, is still where it used to stand; the cattle barn to the east must have been enlarged or rebuilt, and the silo-attainment on the north was then a great event of the sort. "Is that the old Farm House?" pointing to the cottage now occupied by Mr. Fulton and wife. "It must be," we say; it is much nearer from near the road last of the old orchard." At one time the barn was overrun with rats. Dr. Miles about 1880, wanted the animals thoroughly exterminated, especially rats, and we were to be drive south of the houses occupied by Doctors Kedzie, Beal, and Edwards, and Prof. Weil, and have a tool shed and seed room added. About 1873, the whole was moved to its present location. The roof was raised, the windows were fitted, the old barn to the east must have been enlarged or rebuilt, and the silo-attainment on the north was then a great event of the sort. Williams Hall was completed in 1870, and the dwellings now occupied by President Snyder and Prof. Vedder and Barrows, in 1873. If our visitor is one of the really old boys, he is very likely to say, "I remember when the campus was nearly all covered by forest trees. He said we needed nitergin, and showed how the stuff Wuz found to make us 'tarnal rich if we could only git it." Wuz found to make us 'tarnal rich if we could only git it. He said that peas and clover and other crops like Thet clover, peas, and beans, and sich as the chemist knowed, And worked so hard for little pay, and never, never, never, you see, since I come back from the instooot, it really appears, Purdue, Indiana, that such a story ain't going to be none of the old barn to the east must be moved. "The old barn with its small window-lights, is still where it used to stand; the cattle barn to the east must have been enlarged or rebuilt, and the silo-attainment on the north was then a great event of the sort. "Is that the old Farm House?" pointing to the cottage now occupied by Mr. Fulton and wife. "It must be;" we say; it is much nearer from near the road east of the apple orchard." At one time the barn was overrun with rats. 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THE REASON WHY

YOU WEIGH NO MORE AFTER YOU EAT THAN YOU DID BEFORE.

"Many of us have laughed at that absurd conceit in one of Hoyt's productions—"A Texas Steer," we believe—where, in the restaurant scene, customers are put on the scale immediately before and after eating, and are charged in proportion to the extra weight they have taken on. The idea for a comedy is good, but restaurant keepers who adopt it as a practical means of gauging their charges would come out at the small end of the horn."

"It is a well-known fact, though somewhat anomalous, that a person weighs no more after eating a hearty meal than he did before. A little reflection will readily explain this apparent mystery. During the process of mastication, deglutition, etc., certain muscles are brought into active play, and the exercise of any muscle necessitates a temporary waste of its tissues, and a certain amount of carbon is eliminated and passed off during the course of the meal."

"This loss, however, is trifling, as compared with the respiration and perspiration, both of which are increased during the various operations of making a meal. The length of time one may take to consume a pound of food makes no little difference to these losses, for if eaten leisurely, there is but slight increase of respiration or perspiration, whereas, if it is hurried through, both are abnormally accelerated. Hence, by the time the pound is eaten, the consumer has lost, absolutely, In moisture or carbonic acid."

"This gag (to use a slang term) comes up smiling in some form or other in the papers every few years. In reality it is more than a hundred years old, and probably originated with George III, who delighted to poke fun at the solemn doctors who composed the Phthisical Society. The king was wont to propound questions for their discussion and for enlightening the public. Among other questions was this: "When a live fish is placed in a tub of water, why does the tub and contents weigh no more than it did before the fish was placed in the water?" The doctors discussed long and earnestly: "If the fish lies on the bottom of the tub the weight would be increased," or "if the fish floated on the top, the pressure of the fish on the top would increase the weight," "but if the fish was in suspension or swimming in the water, the pressure upward or downward would be equal, and hence the tub and contents must weigh the same when the fish was first put in as before, and so the king's question is answered." But one Doubting Thomas LL. B. raised the question, "Is it true that the tub of water and fish floats on the top, the pressure of the fish on the top must increase the weight?" The doctor scouted the idea that matter was destroyed by being swallowed and weight was an essential quality of matter. "But," replied Merchant Proctor, "the air inside the horse is very heavy—as heavy as water—and in drinking a pail of water the same volume of air is displaced, and hence no change of weight."

"There is no use of talking when we can know," said Mr. Fairfield, "there's my horse that wants a drink, let's try him." "And here's my hay scales," said Farmer Beet, "there's my horse that wants a drink, let's try him."

"Now you facts before you try to explain them!"

"Many are the village doctors that the merchant, the squire and the farmer were debating why a horse would weigh no more after drinking a pail of water. The doctor asserted the idea that matter was destroyed by being swallowed and weight was an essential quality of matter. "But," replied Merchant Proctor, "the air inside the horse is very heavy—as heavy as water—and in drinking a pail of water the same volume of air is displaced, and hence no change of weight."

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The Farm Department

Owing to the crowded conditions of the stables these animals will be sold cheap.

These Animals will be registered, transferred and placed on board cars at Lansing on receipt of price, which will be given on application to

Clinton D. Smith,
Director and Superintendent of Farm.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, MICH.

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MID-SUMMER CLOTHING AND BICYCLE SUITS.
NEWS FROM GRADUATES AND STUDENTS.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Foss, '96, a daughter, June 21, 1896.

James Tarbell, with '97, visited at the College the early part of last week.

George R. Crow, with '95, is running a successful grocery store at Lowell, Mich.

Grant Morse, with '75, is a prominent candidate for probate judge in Ingham county.

Jason E. Hammond, '96, delivered the commencement address at Grand Ledge last week.

M. Kanter, with '95, is now junior member of the firm of Crouse & Co., mechanics' supply house, Detroit.

Prof. A. T. Reeves, '98, is spending his summer vacation at M. A. C. and vicinity. He will do some work at the College during the summer.

L. H. Baker, '93, is spending the summer at his home in Lansing. He will do some work in Latin and zoology, besides a considerable tutoring.

G. E. Hancorne, '96, a former Michiganian, now in Iowa, reports an increase in salary of $200. Happy Hancorne—The Moderator.

R. J. Heck, '95, will remain at Grandville next year with an increased salary. He will start soon on a wheel trip through Indiana, Illinois, and Kentucky.

W. C. Bagley, '95, called on friends at the College Saturday. He was on his way to Chicago, where he will spend the summer, and take a course at the Chicago University at once.

H. W. Tracy, '94, will again go on the road for D. M. Ferry & Co., within a week. His territory includes Maryland, New Jersey, and several other eastern states.

George J. Jenks, '96, of Sand Beach, Mich., among other duties, is secretary of Harbor Beach Association, which he believes is a first class place for resorting.

W. J. Cummings, with '95, has located as architect and builder at Munising, H. U. P., Mich. He considers it a bustling place, in one of the finest natural harbors in the world, only a few miles from the famous pictured rocks.

C. H. St. John, '97, for a time instructor in physics at the State Normal, and then for two years a student at Heidelberg University, Germany, has recently been appointed as professor in physics at the University of Michigan.

We notice in the prospectus of the Long Beach Chautauqua Assembly, that Prof. A. J. Cook, '92, will lecture on entomology and physiology. Long Beach is near Pasadena, Cal. The assembly opens July 14 and closes July 24.

The high school pupils of Saranac recently surprised their principal, R. S. Campbell, '94, by taking possession of his home one evening during his absence. No explanations were given, and he considered himself as desiring his home to be vacated by the students. No injuries of any kind were done.

C. L. Toller, '96, chemist of the experiment station, Fayetteville, Arkansas, writes: "I wish prosperity to M. A. C. as ever. Very likely you are all busy with summer students. The teachers here are all on a vacation, but we, poor fellows, in the Expt. Sta., are trying to earn our bread by the sweat of our brows."

J. A. White [with '92], formerly principal of schools at Jacksonville, but for the past year in charge of the commercial department of the Burlington, la., high school, is re-engaged for next year at an advance of $160 to $200. His department is fitted out with an elegant equipment of business college furniture and other material for carrying on the work, in consequence of which J. A. is happy,—The Moderator.

David Anderson, Jr., '95, is a member of the law firm of Anderson & Chase, Paw Paw, Mich. We clip the following interesting item regarding him from the South Haven Messenger: "Married, at the home of the bride's parents, at Berkton, Wednesday, June 30, by A. H. Rose, David Anderson, Jr., of Paw Paw, and Miss Hattie Sumney. Mrs. D. M. Coady and daughter Ella, respectively aunt and cousin of the bride, and Miss Arca Carrier, niece of the groom, attended from this place. The Messenger voices the best wishes of itself and a host of friends.

JUST THE MAN.

Rooter—"A friend of mine had a load of bricks dropped on him the other day, and escaped without the slightest injury."
Baseball Magnate—"You interest me. Where can he be found?"
Rooter—"Why, what do you want with him?"
Baseball Magnate—"He's just the fellow for a good umpire."—Philadelphia North American.
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Warm rooms in handsome dormitories, heated with steam or hot water, at a cost less than it takes to heat the rooms. Good board at actual cost. No tuition to residents of the State.

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