SHORT COURSES IN AGRICULTURE.

Six Different Courses Offered. Work Begins Jan. 6.

Short courses in agriculture were first offered at the Michigan Agricultural College in 1897, with an enrollment of 15 students at that time. The attendance has continued to increase rapidly as a knowledge of the value of the work has become more generally known, and as the necessary facilities could be provided to conduct the courses properly. In 1912 the total enrollment for the short courses numbered 393, not including those who attended the one-week courses offered for dairymen and poultrymen. The total enrollment since 1897, not including the one-week courses, amounts to 2,692.

There may be some who wonder why those people are, where they come from, and the objects they are seeking. The majority consists of the young men from Michigan farms, actively engaged in farming, and who are unable to leave their business to complete regular courses. A large percentage of these young men have attended high schools. There are also representatives of the professions, industries and trades from villages, cities and towns who have been brought forward by the popular wave of sentiment which has been gaining a constantly greater momentum in that direction. The capitalist and the laborer are to be found side by side with the farmer boy in the class room. Beyond sixteen years there are no age regulations for entrants, and the gray haired man mingle with the heedless youth. These courses have been attended by graduates of some of the leading Universities of America where agriculture is not taught.

Six courses are offered for the term beginning January 6th, 1913, as follows, viz.: Two in General Agriculture, two in Creamery Management, and one each in Cheese Making, Fruit Growing and Poultry Production. The courses include both lectures and laboratory work, amounting to eight hours per day. The work is of an eminently practical nature, and is supported by some elementary science bearing a close relation to the principles and practices of agriculture.

Upon completion of their courses, those who attend, with very few exceptions, return to Michigan farms. The 2,692 persons who have attended these courses and returned largely to Michigan farms are giving the institution a large representation. It is not to be expected that every individual will excel in agriculture, but results indicate that the majority have received a stimulus to achieve greater results than their fellows in the community. The short course man who becomes a leader in his community fulfills a mission that other agencies for the betterment of Michigan agriculture fail to perform. There are always some indifferent farmers in a community who do not attend local farmers' organizations or institutes, or read agricultural papers or Experimental Station bulletins. Such men, with their exhausted lands, tumbled down buildings, poor stock and weedy farms, are practically beyond reach of organized efforts for improving agricultural conditions. This type of man is reached only through the power of example. The modernized methods of the enthusiastic and successful short course farmer are exerting a great influence in the communities where these men are operating. As a general rule, the short course man is expected to lead in his community in public business and political enterprises, as well as in matters pertaining to the improvement of moral and social conditions.

The generous treatment accorded short course students by regular students is worthy of special notice. Assistance has been freely given in the carrying out of plans devised to instruct, entertain and develop a spirit of loyalty in the short course men. It is true that no one is more loyal to M. A. C. than her short course representatives. Their efforts and words of commendation in behalf of the institution are being felt more and more in every part of the state. Every regular student enrolled at M. A. C., who has a personal interest in the institution and a proper spirit of loyalty, should at least lend their moral support to the future development of the short courses.

SPECIAL EVENTS DURING SHORT COURSE SESSION.

An effort is made to make the time that the short course student spends at the college both interesting and profitable by having as many special agricultural and entertaining events as possible take place during the short course session. Early in the course there will be held the annual meetings of the various breeders' associations, which bring to the college the prominent breeders of all classes of live stock. These meetings are open to all who are interested in the breeding and improvement of stock, and students attend the meetings of the association in which they are particularly interested. This affords an unusual opportunity to meet and know these men who are influential in live stock circles, and to hear addresses by the leading specialists of this and other states as well. The general session of the Michigan Improved Live Stock Breeders' and Feeders' Association is held the day following the meetings of the separate breed associations. Practical problems of the breeder and feeder are discussed at this meeting by men who can present up-to-date material.

Special one week courses in dairying and poultry are held during January and February, and each of these bring to the college men recognized ability in their special subjects. Opportunity is given the (Continued on page 2)
The M. A. C. RECORD.

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY DURING THE COLLEGE PROFICIENT TERM.

B. A. FAUNCE, MANAGING EDITOR

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1912

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(Continued from page 1.)

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THE AGRICULTURAL BUILDING.

Michigan poultry interests are developing very rapidly. As this interest increases, so does the demand for poultry knowledge, and as the poultry business grows and spreads to new localities, there is demand for poultrymen possessing good education along these lines.

To aid in the distribution of this knowledge and make poultry work thorough study of poultry problems, the College Department of Poultry Husbandry offers an eight-weeks' short course during January and February, a time when it is in general most convenient for the individual to be absent from other duties and pursue systematic study along these lines. The course of study is designed to meet the practical problems which confront poultry raisers, including feeding and general care, breeding, a study of breeds, judging, exhibiting, incubating, brooding, preparing ration, and considerable importance will be placed on marketing of poultry and eggs and a study of present market conditions.

Lectures will be held every day from 10 to 12 o'clock and at 2 to 4 o'clock. The following subjects will be covered: The simplest and easiest methods of raising poultry, using the best breed of chickens and hens, proper feeding, incubating, and the value of eggs. A thorough study of poultry raising will be required of all students, and the course will be open to any interested in poultry subjects.

Mr. L. Fuller, who has completed the poultry course in this department, and who is also a commercial poultryman of considerable experience, will assist in teaching the course at Houghton.

In past years the work done during our special poultry week has been of such a nature that we feel justified in continuing the same.

Those who can leave their work for a short time thus have opportunity to gain a good deal of valuable information and make up for special lectures which are given by professional poultrymen at this time. This poultry week will occur from February 10th to 15th.

Among the speakers who will present the poultry problems are the well-known Professor Graham, of Ontario Agricultural College, Joseph; Franklione Sewell, Poultry Artist for the American Poultry Association; Mr. I. A. Freeman, who, aside from being a commercial poultryman, is on the lecture bureau for the American Poultry Association, and several other speakers who will be secured for single lectures during the week.

In connection with the poultry week, tickets will be held, at the same time, in the college pavilion, our Fifth Annual Poultry Show, Judges Tucker and Wise will place the awards, which will be done on the basis of the exhibit, and which will be open to all those who will be held. Universal cropping belonging to the Battle Creek Poultry Association has been loaned for the occasion of Mr. B. Porter, of Grand Rapids, who has had considerable experience along poultry lines, will interpret the show and everything possible will be done to make this one of the best, as well as one of the most educational shows held in the state. No entry fees will be charged, and all exhibitors will get awards, and scores of tickets will be distributed to the exhibits.

The M. A. C. Poultry Association will hold meetings during the term, which we hope will receive the co-operation of all students, and will be open to any interested in poultry subjects.

One of the pleasant features of this course will be the talks to be held from time to time by some of the successful poultry growers of this state, who will be invited to meet and hear these men tell of their methods and results.

The business of rearing and improving apples in Michigan is now an important one and some of the men who are handling this work on a large scale will tell of their methods.

The college is constantly receiving inquiries for young men of some practical experience and a knowledge of the fundamental principles of fruit raising, who have been handled, cannot be secured, and every fruit grower must know how to use, and apply, fertilizers intelligently, and how to mix them at home in the most economical way. In addition to these very essential kinds of knowledge, the fruit grower must understand absolutely the different ways of propagating trees, and the use of every sprout material that he may need to use. No fruit farm is complete without a practical understanding of the fact that the fruit grower must have a first-hand and thorough knowledge about the leading makers of gas engines and their uses in driving sprout machinery.

The course offered at the Michigan Agricultural College aims to give the student all that the above mentioned subjects call for.

MATERIAL is presented in the form of very practical lectures. Text books are not used, but the students, who had better make their own, will find full notes upon the subjects presented.

Fruit growing will be thoroughly considered as this is the market of the crop. A large collection of varieties of fruit from the college orchards and the South Haven experiment station are being held in cold storage for study, and every member of the class will have an opportunity to become thoroughly familiar with all the varieties of Michigan winter fruit. In addition, appropriate literature is secured, from many other states, collections of apples and these which are found in Michigan, of all kinds. A large collection of apples has been secured to show the results of spraying with the Bordeaux mixture, and to show the effects of lime-sulphur. This collection is one of the greatest interest to fruit growers in Michigan at this time.

The important practice of spraying will be thoroughly discussed and each student is expected to make and test every kind of spraying solution and poison now in use. A large number of spraying appliances will be on hand to be tried and tested.

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There are many good commercial poultry establishments near the college, which will afford opportunity to study the actual conditions and to gain considerable valuable knowledge in this manner.

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THE DAIRY COURSES.

The short courses in dairying comprise four separate and independent courses. They are as follows:

1. Cheesemaking: butter making, creamery management, cheese making and farm dairying. The course in cheesemaking has, from year to year, been the most popular of all the courses. It is intended to give a better scientific background for the work which the men who have already been working on, and which they will continue to carry on in the future.

While the number of cheese factories in the state of Michigan are not increasing as rapidly as the number of creameries, due to the fact in some instances that the condensery business is in some sections of the state has been insufficient to establish the creamery making area, there are a number of men who have taken the cheese making course in past years and have found ready employment.

For those who are not able to return to the farm, the course in farm dairying is proving especially desirable. It is the production of milk and cream, and their proper care and management before marketing are topics of vital importance to the dairy industry of the state. This is particularly true since the production of creamery butter making is quite generally practiced in this state. The erection and operation of the creamery and the separator are taught to all men who take the second course year in general agriculture and must be accomplished in making the Balbock test. This is extremely necessary to connect the separator, because without it the efficiency of the machine could not be measured. It also gives the man upon the farm the ability to measure the productivity of the cows in his herd.

2. Liquid Milking: principally the course in dairy bacteriology, the instruction given the men help to improve the quality of the dairy farm products.

3. Pasture Making: to give the right to the man as a mere necessary adjunct of the school. It was the chairman of the school rather than the school for the child.

4. The play of the child is often, if not always, an interest in imitation. It is the desire to imitate the life of the child.

The most convincing proof that the barriers between the school and the life of the child are crumbling away, and the best evidence that educators are recognizing the educational significance of this tendency is shown in the introduction of educational courses, and especially the introduction of agriculture, not merely agricultural instruction, into the rural schools.

The county school commission of the central agricultural association must have taken the lead in carrying the educational work into the home life of the rural people. So far, this has mainly taken the form of some growing contests, in which the children of a county have been invited to grow a plot of corn, with a view to high yield, excellence of individual ears, or some other object; the conditions varying in the different counties. From these contests some very excellent results have been obtained, real interest and enthusiasm aroused on the part of the children grown up to this new trend of things educational, and the office of county school commission being a factor in the training of future citizens of the county, magnified.

This year there has been a concerted action among the commissioners of the several counties, for the purpose of developing the educational work beyond this point. Commissioned to the State Teachers Association in the Grand Rapids, October 31, 1912, this department (Agricultural Education) proposed to them a plan of permanent organization. This plan as submitted was unanimously adopted, and Commissioner T. H. Townsend, of Clinton county, was chosen president, and Commissioner Thomas M. Sattler, of Jackson county, treasurer, of a state executive committee. By the terms of this constitution the Rev. C. H. French, of the department of agricultural education at M. A. C., is ex-officio secretary of this committee.

The purposes of the organization, to be known as the "Michigan Agricultural Association of Michigan," may be outlined as follows:

1. To render permanent the educational move now expressed in the corn growing contests in the various counties.

2. To serve as a convenient vehicle for carrying out such concerted projects as the several county commissions may wish to undertake.

3. To aid in unifying the efforts of the home, of the local teacher, the county school commissioner, of the State Department of Education, and of the Michigan Agricultural College, along the lines of extension of agricultural education among the children of the state.

4. To bring to the parents some normal way from time to time the young people of a community and of a county, in order to give them a common tendency toward a normal seclusion in the life of rural people.

5. To aid in training children in matters of organization and self-government, and to give practice in public reading and speaking.

6. To help in the developing of good farmers, good citizens, good neighbors, good citizens.

Dr. Bessey's new bulletin, which has been sent to press, gives the text of the state law in the Seed Analysis for 1911-12, as well as the analysis of samples for two years.

Prof. King appears on the program of the Central M. E. church lecture course. His recital of the drama, "Breaking with the Past," is particularly true.

At the last meeting of the year, the Farmers' Club elected officers: President, G. E. Piper; vice president, John Smith; secretary, K. V. Vining; treasurer, J. S. Wells; scribe, J. H. Hamilton.

The new experiment station bulletin on alfalfa, by Prof. Shoesmith, will soon be ready for distribution. This bulletin is the result of the state-wide investigation which has been made of the experience of farmers with the growing of this crop.

D. F. Fisher, '12, was at M. A. C. several days past week, when he made a collection trip. A bulletin on Corn and Beans will be sent to Washington for future laboratory specimens. Mr. F. will spend the holidays in New York at his old home, and then proceed to Washington for the winter.

Alma, Ypsilanti and M. A. C. each held substantial winter meetings. In the coming triangular debate, the one offered by M. A. C. being selected. The question was whether the federal government should attempt to control the trusts, rather than to pass it on to the states; the debate will be held May 2. All societies except one have accepted the proposal to carry on a series of inter-society debates.
ROBERT SMITH PRINTING CO.

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trade. Always find the latest in Sweaters, Mackinaws, Rain Coats, Caps, Hats, Shirts

and Neckwear at MIFLIN'S

Dr. Hutton, of the veterinary division, will spend the holidays at Wou-

ster, O.

Pres. Snyder was in Flint Fri-

day, where he spoke before a Bankers' Farmers' meeting.

Prof. Johnston, of the English
department, acted as judge at the recent local oratorical contest held at Oblivet, Dec. 18.

H. C. Hilton, '17, was a recent col-

lege visitor. Mr. Hilton is in the forest service in Colorado. He will spend the holidays

at his home in Fremont, Mich.

A. B. Cook, of Owosso, and

Dwight S. Cole, Grand Rapids,

both members of the class of 1893, were visitors at M. A. C. on Thursday, Decem-

ber 19.

R. E. Davis, instructor in zoology

the past year, is visiting college

friends at this time. Mr. Davis

holds a like position in the Eastern

Illinois State Normal School, located at Charleston.

Profs. Baker and Sanford will at-

tend the meetings of the Eastern

State Foresters, held in Lake-

wood, N. J., on Jan. 6 and 7, and also the meeting of the American

Forestry Society in Washington, on Jan. 9.

On Thursday evening of last

week the dining room of the Women's Building presented a very

prettv appearance, with its Holly

trimming and numerous scarlet

candles. The Christmas dinner

was served, being the last full

day of college life for the fall term.

L. A. Willett, senior vet., will

spend the vacation in the veterinary

laboratory.

Dr. and Mrs. Otto Rahn are in

Lansing for the holidays, visiting at the former's old home.

Miss Ruth Wood is at her home in East Lansing, recovering from an operation for appendicitis.

Dr. Ruth Allen, of the Botanical

Dept., will spend her Christmas

vacation with friends in Sturgeon

Bay, Wis., her former home.

L. O. Benner, '17, with the Stub-

baker Wagon Works in South

Bend, was in Lansing several days

the past week. Mr. Benner plans to

make Lansing his future home.

Dr. Ernest Bessey plans to attend the scientific meetings at Cleveland

during the week beginning Dec. 30. He will give a paper before the Botanical

Society of America, and one before the Society of Seed Analysts.

The fillers gave their annual

Christmas party on the evening of

Dec. 11, in the parlors of the Women's Building. Santa Claus was on hand, and the children (con-

sumed) of all ages and sizes amply

provided for.

W. M. Barrows, '03, assistant

professor of zoology and entomol-

ogy, in Ohio State University,

Columbus, arrived at M. A. C. last

week, and will spend Christmas

with his parents, Prof. and Mrs.

Barrows. Miss Marguerite Bar-

rows is also at home for the holi-

days.

Just enough of the beautiful to

make it seem like the Christmas

time, but not yet enough for that singular.

The price of board as advertised for the fall term in the various clubs is as

follows: A. $2.50; B. $3.50; C. $2.10; D. $1.44; E. $3.50; F. $3.00.

A new operating table, especially

for dogs and other smaller animals, has been added to the veterinary equipment. The table has a hard-

some steel enameled frame, is some

3 feet in height, 2 ft. x 5 ft. in size, and mounted on cushioned rollers.

Dr. Giltnier, Miss Zac Northrop and Instructor C. W. Brown, of the department of Bacteriology, will

attend the meeting of the Society of American Bacteriologists held in

New York City, Dec. 30, and January 1 and 2. Dr. C. E. Marshall is

director of this association.

M. T. Mann, '12, spent Thurs-

day and Friday with M. A. C.

friends. One of the objects of his

visit was to obtain several hundred

seed samples from the large seed

collection in the botanical depart-

ment, to form a basis of a seed col-

lection for the New York state ex-

perimental station at Geneva, where

Mr. Mann has charge of the seed

testing work. He is also engaged in

studies of various plant diseases.

Mr. Mann will spend Christmas

at his home, and then proceed to

Cleveland, where he gives a paper

before the Association of Seed An-

alysts.

Miss Bessie Bennis, '05, instructor

in domestic science in the University

of Minnesota, is at M. A. C. to

spend the holidays with her parents.

By recent action of the State

Board, Prof. J. Fred Baker, of the

Forestry department, was granted

leave of absence for one year, begin-

ning April 1. Prof. Baker will

study abroad during his leave.

Mr. Stephen Kline has been

appointed instructor in forestry, be-
inning Jan. 1. Mr. Kline is a

graduate of the Yale Forest School,

1909, with the degree of M. S.

He entered the U. S. Forest service

upon civil service examination, and

for some time held the rank of for-

est assistant. He is now in special

work in the forest service.

Dr. H. J. Webber stopped at M.

A. C. Friday, on his way to Cali-

fornia, in order to visit his son,

Earl, '17, and to visit certain depart-

ments. Dr. Webber has resigned

his position as head of the depart-
ments of plant breeding in Cornell, to

become head of the graduate school of sub-tropical agriculture, to

be located at some point in the cir-

rus region of Southern California.

This school will provide for gradu-

ate work for a limited number of students. The faculty will consist of

investigators who will guide the

work of the graduate students, and

at the same time carry on research

work along various lines of sub-

tropical agriculture. This institu-

tion is to be under the same con-

trol as the State University.
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PARCELS POST.
New Law Becomes Effective Jan. 1, 1913.
The new parcel post law, which goes into effect on January 1, provides
that hereafter fourth-class mail matter shall embrace all other matter, including farm and factory products, not now embraced by either the first, second, or third class, not exceeding eleven pounds in weight, and containing twenty or more sheets measuring not more than seventy-two inches in length and sixty inches in width, combined, or in form or kind likely to injure the person of any postal employee or damage the mail equipment or other mail matter and not of a character perishable within a period reasonable for transportation and delivery.

In the posting, charge is thus reduced quite materially, and the limit of weight increased from four to twelve pounds. Those residing on rural or star routes will be accommodated, and the city dwellers where free delivery is now in operation may have their parcels delivered at the door.

Special delivery service will be accorded upon payment of the usual fees, and packages may also be insured against loss or damage at an amount equivalent to their actual value.

The United States has been divided into zones, in order to carry this into effect, and rates of postage are made applicable to each.

The local rate is made five cents for the first pound and one cent for each additional pound until the limit of 11 pounds is reached, for which it costs 95 cents.

For the first zone of 50 miles the rate will be five cents for the first pound, and one cent for each additional pound, or 11 pounds for 35 cents for the limit.

The post office from 50 to 150 miles, the rate will be from six cents to 46 cents increasing four cents for each additional pound, with a maximum of 15 pounds at $1.14; in the seventh zone, 1,400 to 1,800 miles, 11 to $1.14; in the eighth, all over 1,800 miles, 12 to $1.52.

A VISIT TO PANAMA.

Dean Bissell gave a most interesting account of his trip to the Panamanian Canal at the monthly meeting of the Women's Club at the last meeting.

At the beginning she showed, by means of maps and charts, the present routes of steamship travel and the suggested routes for the canal. The big relief of the map was brought into use, and the course of the canal nicely explained by its use.

The trip was a most interesting one to be encountered in this undertaking. The first was that of health and sanitation, the engineer sharing alike the dangers with the common laborers.

The great rainfall of the country was another obstacle. The rivers rose several feet in a very few hours on account of the excessive rainfall of that region. This was in part overcome by the construction of a great dam, thereby spreading the water over a greater area.

The great Culebra cut was another obstacle, and the tunneling and excavating was a feature of this great engineering feat.

In short description of the country before the work began was given, a statement of when the canal will be formally opened, something of the tolls to be levied, and the number of ships likely to pass through the canal in a year.

Dean Bissell closed his address with a series of lantern slides showing actual working operations on the canal.

Several M. A. C. men are engaged in this project, one of whom is Louis Landson, with whom of our librarian, is in the offices at Gatun.

BREEDERS' AND FEEDERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

The 22nd annual meeting of the Michigan Improved Live Stock Breeders and Feeders Association will meet at the College on Wednesday and Thursday, January 15 and 16.

The sectional meetings will be held in the Agricultural building on the 15th and will include the following:


Porkers—Hog—IRE. China and Duroc Jersey breeders.

The general session will be held on the 16th in the auditorium of the same building. At this session several men of note will have part in the discussion, among whom will be Prof. W. C. Coffee, the University of Illinois specialist on sheep breeding and feeding; Mr. Wayne Denature, secretary of the Percheron Horse Association of America, and Dr. B. H. Ball, chief of the Dairy Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

A new feature in connection with this association will be the show of fat barrows on the afternoon of the 16th; thereby will then be slaughtered, and on the 18th the carcasses will be judged. This should be a most instructive demonstration, especially to the producer of pork.

The annual banquet will be attended by the visiting association members on the evening of the 16th at 8 o'clock, probably in Club B. At the banquet several entertainment will be provided, and the entire membership will be present, including Mr. M. H. Gardner, of Delavan, Wis.; John W. Grover, Chicago; C. W. F. T. Cadwell, of Petersburgh, N. H. In addition, a number of local speakers will appear on the program.

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