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Minutes, February 16, 1921

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Hartford, Conn.,

February 16, 1921.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Connecticut Agricultural College was called to order at 12:20 at the Hotel Heublein by Vice President Manchester.

Those also present were Messrs. Henry, Alsop, Hubbard, Stoddard, President Beach, Treasurer Longley and King.

It was voted to issue the following statement to the President:-

We have read the statement of the Board of Finance, appearing on page 4 of their report, and concerning the Connecticut Agricultural College. It is evident that this statement has led to confusion in the mind of the public who are not informed as to its activities.

The work of the Connecticut Agricultural College is divided into three parts:

1. The experiment station; the work of which consists of conducting original research and investigation bearing directly upon farming in all its branches.
2. The extension service; the work of which is to carry to the working farmer through extension specialists and the farm bureaus, by means of lectures, discussions, demonstrations, personal conferences, etc. the results of the work of the experiment stations and general information upon the subjects taught in the Agricultural College.

3. The Agricultural College itself. The college does not aim to be a university. It does not compete with Yale, Wesleyan, or Trinity. (It may be of interest to know that on the Board of Trustees of the Agricultural College are graduates of each of these three universities.) The courses of study provide instruction in:

- (a) Poultry, dairy and livestock management, soils, crops and fertilizers, fruit and vegetable production.
- (b) The fundamental sciences as applied to agriculture--botany, chemistry, bacteriology, entomology and physics.
- (c) Modern language, history, English, economics and related subjects.

It offers only such academic subjects as are essential to the well balanced agricultural graduate. That a few of such subjects are part of the necessary curriculum of an agricultural college is recognized by every similar institution in the United States. Furthermore there is no technical school of any kind in this country which does not give a certain amount of its time, varying from 25% to 40% to the study of so-called "academic subjects", such as English and economics.

Two main courses are given at the college.

1. The four year agriculture course which is designed to fit young men to become farmers, farm managers, agricultural teachers, extension workers, and to generally equip them for leadership in agricultural life.

2. A two year course known as the "School of Agriculture" which is designed for young men who are unable to be away from their farm work except during the late fall and winter months.

This course covers a period of twenty weeks only, from late autumn until early spring.

There are at present enrolled in the Agricultural College in both branches 292 male students, 266 of whom are enrolled in the agricultural courses, either the two or four year course, and twenty-six are enrolled in the course in mechanic arts. This division of instruction is required by the fact that the Connecticut Agricultural College is a land grant college, receiving a part of its support from Federal sources. It is the policy of the college to offer only such courses as will enable students to get the fundamentals of engineering practice, in laboratory, vocational and mathematical work.

Referring to the above figures, it will be seen that 91% of these students are studying agriculture. This is the highest per cent of students in any agricultural college in the United States, operating under similar conditions, taking the agricultural course.

In addition to the above there are 62 women students 57 of whom are taking the course in home economics. This course is designed for the training of teachers of home economics, the college having been designated by the Legislature as the institution to receive Federal funds for that purpose under the terms of the Act of Congress, known as the Smith-Hughes Act.

It may be interesting to note in this connection that the so-called "course in journalism" upon which so much stress has been laid by certain newspapers of the state, consists of a two hour a week lecture, during one term of one year of the four year course in agriculture and is designed to help agricultural students in the preparation of notices for articles which they may in the future need to prepare. This course is optional.

Olcott F. King.

It was voted to rescind a former vote of the Board of Trustees that the deed of the property of the Shakespearian Club be given to the State after the building was completed.

The meeting adjourned.

Attest:

O. F. King,

Secretary.