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President's Report to Board of Trustees, 1910-07

Clemson University

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No. 2

GENERAL REPORT
TO
BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

July 12, 1910.

Gentlemen:-

In accordance with the By-laws, I submit the following report of the work and progress of the College for the year ending July 1st, 1910.

I am glad to be able to report to you a most successful close of the 17th session of the College.

The Graduating Class was the second largest in the history of the Institution, numbering 77 young men, - 33 in the Agricultural Courses and 44 in the Engineering and Textile Courses. The names will be later presented for your official sanction of their degree. I am glad to be able to state that no member of the Senior Class failed to graduate.

The Commencement passed off without any disorder of any kind. The Hazing prevalent at this season was entirely lacking. Visitors were accommodated in Barracks No.3, and meals furnished them in the Mess-Hall at 25¢ per meal.

No visitors were permitted to enter Barracks Nos. 1 and 2 on any pretext whatever. By similar methods, I believe hazing can be largely prevented at the opening of the session, because a good deal of this is brought about by old graduates and students returning for a few days at the opening.

For once in the history of the College, every member of the faculty, and practically every student, was present at the Commencement Exercises.

After consulting with several members of your Board, an open air entertainment was given to the entire student body and visitors on

Monday night following the Alumni Address. This entertainment served the good purpose of making the under classmen feel more contented to stay during Commencement, because some part of the festivities was designed for them. The entertainment cost about \$80.00, and was paid for out of the Contingent Fund.

I have had practically no time to study the individual efficiency of the members of the Faculty.

Professors Mooring and Knight of the Agricultural Faculty have proven obviously unsatisfactory, and will not be recommended for re-election. Prof. Ainslee has not been entirely satisfactory to me, and later in this report a suitable recommendation will be made regarding him.

What we need most in our faculty are more men, who not only do well their assigned part, but who seek to initiate plans for the advancement of their work and of the College. Only through such men can the College be made less of a dead body and more of a quickening spirit! We should, as soon as the facts can be definitely known, seek to get rid of those teachers, if there be any such, who through lack of study and effort are not improving themselves to be more efficient, and those teachers, if there be such, who have no vital interest in, or love for, their students - who are merely salary drawers.

We should make free use of our rule requiring re-election at the end of the first year. In this way, can we eventually insure ourselves against unsatisfactory men, whom we are under no obligations to elect to a permanent position.

The Agricultural Department, including now the Farm, has made satisfactory, if not phenomenal, progress under its new Director, Prof. Perkins. In Prof. Perkins, I am sure we have found a satisfactory Professor of Agriculture. Whether he has the energy and initiative to make him a successful leader, remains to be seen. I am not sure on this point.

He is a man of excellent judgment on all matters Agricultural and otherwise, and a man of rugged and exact honesty. He is

a good counsellor in the faculty and on the Discipline Committee. I believe he is lacking in dynamic power and in that ceaseless energy necessary to highest success. But he is a safe man. While there may be men who have more of the qualities he lacks, yet perhaps they would have less of the other great essentials which he possesses. We can well afford to count on him as a fixture, and time will determine the position in which he can render us best service.

Prof. Perkins seems convinced that the Farm can be made a paying proposition, instead of an annual loss, by increasing gradually the size of our herds, by raising large numbers of hogs and selling the pigs, and by raising for sale, seed cotton and corn. His idea is to make Clemson College a center of distribution for cheap, yet the best, stock and seeds.

His plans, as well as the condition of his Department and of the Farm, are fully explained in a report that I have submitted to the Agricultural Committee.

The Engineering Department has done well, in spite of practically its lack of a Director during the past six months. The teachers are without exception zealous and efficient. The changes in the internal arrangements of the building now under way, will naturally add to the efficiency of the Department, and give us the finest Drawing Division in the country. The members of this particular Division are to be commended for the large amount of outside work in the way of building-plans, maps, etc. done for other Departments of the College. I wish also, to especially commend my faithful and efficient Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering, who has during my enforced neglect of that Division, carried a larger part than his share of the burden.

The Textile Department shows signs of improvement in the number of students taking the course. About twenty-five (25) will be in the Textile Courses next session.

Prof. Doggett has given unflagging service to the Printery, and while a little neglectful of his book-keeping, has done valiant service there.

We have made plans in accordance with instructions from the Board, to move the Printing Office to the basement of the Textile Building.

He has prepared to carry out the Law recently enacted requiring Clemson College to make State flags for schools and public buildings at cost. The necessary appropriation for the machinery is included in the budget.

The Chemical Department has been maintained at the usual standard of efficiency. The resignation of its beloved Director, Col. M.B. Hardin, will be presented in due course.

The Academic Department has maintained its usual level, in some respects not entirely satisfactory to me. Improvement has been shown in the matter of organization of the Divisions. It is my purpose to try to get the teachers in the same Divisions more closely segregated in hopes of getting closer co-ordination of the work.

The College suffers by having in this Department, too few men who are willing and able to creditably represent the College in Educational gatherings, and command State-wide attention. Such men must be looked for in the Academic Department of any College. They will not be found in the Scientific Departments.

The Experiment Station shows healthy growth under its zealous and loyal Director. The work and plans of the Station are fully presented in Prof. Harper's very interesting report which I have transmitted to the Agricultural Committee.

The Coast Experiment Station, which has been named "Drainland" is in good condition, and promises to popularize the College with the Low Country people.

The new "Feed Stuffs" Law which requires that upon request of the Commission of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries, the Experiment Station shall perform all analyses, but not pay for same, has been complied with by giving to Mr. Summers, the appointee of the Commissioner, a room in the Chemical Laboratory. This will necessitate equipping an additional room for the work of the Chemical Department,

and the cost of this is included in the budget.

The articles of agreement between Prof. Harper and Commissioner Watson provide that in return for the supervision given the Feed Stuffs Chemist by the officers of the Experiment Station, the said Chemist is to assist the Experiment Station Chemist whenever he has State work that permits him to do so.

The law requiring an analysis of seed requires that the examiner work under the supervision of the Experiment Station. A copy of the Laws and agreements between Prof. Harper and Commissioner Watson is attached to this report.

The State Work is in good condition.

The Veterinary Division is very efficiently conducted by the State Veterinarian, Dr. Powers. A full and interesting report of the work of this Division has been made to the Veterinary Committee. Certain additions to our quarantine regulations governing the intra-State movement of cattle has been submitted to this Committee, and I trust they will report thereon at this meeting.

The State Entomological work has been handled by Prof. Conradi, assisted by Mr. Thomas. I shall recommend, Professors Harper and Perkins concurring, that Prof. Ainslee be made State Entomologist with Mr. Thomas as Assistant, and that Prof. Conradi be given the necessary assistance and material to continue and extend the really fine work he is doing in Colleton County and elsewhere. Prof. Conradi's work belongs distinctly to the Experiment Station, while the work of the State Entomologist should be along an entirely different line. His time should be devoted to the protection of our people against fraud in the purchase of nursery stock and against well-known orchard diseases.

The Extension Department has submitted a full report covering the work of the past year. This report is in the hands of the Agricultural Committee. It shows that the Institute Workers have reached approximately 7,735; issued 12 press bulletins; assisted in

the building of six silos; inaugurated six herd records; and rendered material assistance in teaching Agriculture in the County and State Teachers Institutes. The force of the Extension Division now consists of the Superintendent, Prof. Barrow, the Rural School Agriculturist, Mr. Haddon, who is proving an excellent Institute man, and the newly appointed Animal Industry Expert, Mr. T. F. Jackson.

Prof. Perkins recommends the addition of another \$1,500 man as Drainage Engineer, but I do not approve of this suggestion. Our Civil Engineering Division can render aid in specific cases, and I do not believe the time is ripe for putting a man regularly in the field.

The Military Department has, in my judgment, accomplished good results, in the way of discipline. While it has not been rigid, it has been effective to accomplish the purposes which I conceive the Board desires, viz., good order and a reasonable amount of military training.

The Cadet Department, in spite of high prices for provisions, shows nearly \$2,000 less deficit this July than last. A system of daily reports has been inaugurated showing the cost of subsistence each day. These records have enabled us to reduce the cost by eliminating the articles that were unduly expensive, and substituting other cheaper articles of food in their places. The change in the form of furnishing the Dairy products alone will save the Mess Hall over \$1,000 per session. Then too, the method of daily accounting has resulted, I am sure, in reducing waste. With increased experience and still more careful watching, I believe that if we have a full attendance next session, the entire deficit may be wiped out. We have renewed our contract for North Carolina cattle, which will give us our beef much cheaper than we can get it in Tennessee. Under our contract, we get fat steers at 4¢ per lb., fat heifers and young cows at 3 3/4¢, and feeders at 3 1/2¢, - all weighed on our scales.

In this connection, I regret to report the death of our

faithful servant, Mr. John Goodman. He had just completed the contract above referred to, and died immediately after his return home. It will not be necessary to put any one in his place. This will be in the interest of economy, and at no sacrifice of efficiency. One of his sons who has been doing the butchering, will be retained for that purpose.

The Cadet Department has made improvements, but I am not sure but what some changes in its employees may have to be made before we get the best results. The subsistence department of other Colleges should be thoroughly studied in order to see where it is possible to improve ours. The item for Travel of President in the budget contemplates such study.

The new Laundry Machinery has been installed, and the work is greatly improved.

I beg to report that plans for the new Dairy Barn and new Dairy Building have been prepared, and are here for your inspection. The Dairy Building will cost complete, about \$20,000, and the Dairy Barn between \$12,000 and \$15,000.

I beg to bring to your attention for your official action the following matters:-

1. I ask confirmation of my appointment of Mr. T. F. Jackson of Mississippi as Live Stock Expert of the Extension Division of the Agricultural Department. This gentleman was recommended to me by Professors Barrow and Perkins, and his testimonials I have at hand for your inspection. He reported for duty on June 8th.

2. I present the names of Prof. D. C. Mooring, Associate Prof. of Horticulture, and Prof. L. I. Knight, Associate Professor of Botany and Bacteriology, whose first year terms of service will expire Aug. 15th and Sept. 1st, respectively, and recommend that they be not re-elected. Prof. Perkins makes this recommendation to me, and from my own investigations, I concur in it.

3. I recommend that Prof. F. R. Sweeney be re-elected as Instructor in Civil Engineering. His services have been eminently satisfactory.

4. I recommend that Prof. Ainslee be made State Entomologist. He will be warned that he must give to his laboratory work closer attention in future than during the past session. If he does not improve in this particular, he will be requested to present his resignation to you next March.

5. I present herewith the resignation of Col. M. B. Hardin as Director of the Chemical Department, and under all the circumstances, advise its acceptance, -Also the resignation of Mr. R. A. Hall, and advise its acceptance. I recommend that Col. Hardin be elected Professor Emeritus of Chemistry, and as such, serve on the Faculty and Discipline Committee, and act as a Consulting Chemist when necessary, and that for this service, he be paid \$1,000 per annum, and be allowed to occupy his present home. I recommend also that the leave of absence until Sept. 1st, asked for by Col. Hardin, be granted.

6. I recommend that Dr. R. N. Brackett, now Associate Professor of Chemistry, be made Acting Director of the Chemical Department, at a salary of \$2,500, and with the distinct understanding that this appointment carries no obligation of permanent election to the position. That Prof. D. H. Henry be made Acting Associate Professor of Chemistry at a salary of \$1,700 on the same conditions. That two \$1,500 Assistant Professors of Chemistry be elected from the list submitted by Col. Hardin, - one under the usual conditions, and the other with an understanding of the conditions of Dr. Brackett's and Prof. Henry's promotions. All these changes to date from Sept. 1st, 1910.

7. I present the resignation of Prof. Kinard as Assistant in the Preparatory Department, and recommend as his successor to take

effect Sept. 1st, Mr. B. J. Wells, whose testimonials are attached.

8. I regret to inform you that Mrs. J. P. Lewis cannot continue in charge of the Trustee House. I recommend that this duty be put upon Mr. Schletter without extra compensation therefor, and that all bills for labor and materials be paid by the College when properly approved. This will eliminate any profit on boarding the Trustees. There is no reason why extra compensation should be given a College employee for the additional service, It is not customary to do so.

9. I present a request from Col. Shanklin that he be given \$150.00 for the care of the Cadet Exchange, and recommend that it be not granted.

10. I submit a report on a controversy between Professors Bryan and Keitt as to relative seniority, and request that the Board appoint a Committee to decide this question.

11. Judge Hook requests a change in Ordinance No.25 referring to shooting on the College grounds, and suggests that the half-mile limit be extended to one mile. I think this a good suggestion, and concur in his recommendation.

12. The general faculty, after careful consideration and by unanimous vote, made several minor changes in the curriculum of all the courses, and these appear in the new catalog, and are subject to your approval.

13. I request a careful consideration of the following sections of the By-Laws:-

Section 1, Art. XII, on page 22.

Section 2, Art. XII, on page 23.

The meaning of these sections is not clear, and their application may cause us trouble in the future.

I advise that Section 6, Art.XI, page 22, be amended to conform with the recommendation to be made by the Finance Committee, by adding after the words * * * "and a requisition therefor was approved," the words "Payment of this bill will not overdraw appropriation for above item." Also that one of the rules adopted by the Executive Committee in regard to private residences be added to Section 9, Art.XII, page 24. This rule is as follows:-

"That no out-house or fence shall be built without the written consent of the President, after full information has been furnished him as to the proposed location and method of construction."

14. After consultation with, and approval by, the Executive Committee, I have taken the following action:-

(a) Changed the date of opening of College next session from Sept. 7th to Sept. 14th.

(b) Inaugurated a thorough advertisement of the courses and cost at Clemson in connection with the scholarship advertisements.

(c) Planned to hold one day Institutes over the State, and finish with a three day's Institute at Clemson the last week in July. The date for the Institute here has since been changed to August 31, Sept. 1st and Sept, 2nd.

(d) Introduced into the catalog a six weeks' course for farmers, to begin January 1st.

(e) Ordered the necessary machinery to comply with the State Law requiring us to manufacture State Flags.

(f) Endorsed the articles of agreement between Prof. Harper and Commissioner Watson governing the Feed Stuffs and Seed Inspection.

(g) Authorized the payment of bill for \$150.00 for horse bought by the order of the Board for the Director of the Agricultural Department.

(h) Authorized the sale of surplus milk and butter to the residents of the community under the ticket system established by the Finance Committee governing the sale of these products during vacation.

15. I present herewith the roll of the graduating class, and request your official sanction of the B.S. degree awarded them June 7, 1910.

16. I have the honor to submit the budgets for the fiscal year, 1910 - 1911.

Respectfully submitted,

Acting President.