

# NEW SPIRIT AT COLLEGE

Dr. William Jasper Kerr, President of O. A. C., Has Effected a Complete Rejuvenation in Every Department.

By John G. Schroeder, '08.

Corvallis, Or., July 18.—Upon the resignation of Dr. Thomas M. Gatch, as president of the Oregon Agricultural college, a little over a year ago, the matter of selecting his successor caused deep concern to the governing board of the institution. Many were the aspirants and it was a difficult matter to decide upon the right man. After a careful investigation the board came to



Dr. William Jasper Kerr, the Twentieth Century President of the Oregon Agricultural College

the conclusion that Dr. W. J. Kerr of the Utah Agricultural college was the man best qualified for the place. Consequently he was elected and let it be said to the credit of the board that they made a wise choice.

The newly elected executive assumed his duties last summer and now, at the conclusion of his first year's work as president of the O. A. C., the question that arises among the citizens of the state are: Has Dr. Kerr made good? How has he acquitted himself? What has he accomplished? What has he done and what is he doing to reorganize the affairs of the institution?

**Possesses Exceptional Ability.**  
While it may be somewhat previous to attempt any complete answer of these inquiries, still the way he has started his work, the foundation he is laying, the new atmosphere he has infused, his remarkable hold on the student body and his own great interest in industrial education serve well as an index of what the man really is. Thus far he has more than lived up to the expectations of the people who understand the conditions of the institution and it is the consensus of opinion that the state can consider itself fortunate in securing the services of so capable a man as Dr. Kerr.

It must be recognized that the reorganization process of an educational institution is a slow one and that such a transformation is hindered in its progress. There are the old customs that have been followed, the old plans and systems that cannot be put aside immediately, all of which will have to be of their own accord with the evolution going on. But Dr. Kerr has proven himself equal to the task and while not over hasty has made sweeping innovations that have met the general approval and caused no rupture.

**Creates New School Spirit.**  
Immediately upon assuming his duties as chief executive of the Oregon Agricultural college, Dr. Kerr started upon a work of reorganization, laying special stress upon close specialization and concentration of work in the different departments. Thus far he has succeeded admirably and has brought about many changes in the various courses, raised the standard of the college and established new professorships. During the year two new buildings have been erected and several more are planned.

Before his coming the work of the school was scarcely known by the people of the state. The student activities the change is very noticeable. Not once in the history of the school had there ever been any debating or oratorical honors held at home.

Whether or not we can trace the change to the presence of Dr. Kerr is a question but nevertheless every debate is a question but nevertheless every debate

**DROPPED COFFEE**  
Doctor Gains Twenty Pounds on Postum.

A physician of Washington, D. C., says of his coffee experience:  
"For years I suffered with periodical headaches which grew more frequent until they became almost constant. So severe were they that sometimes I was almost frantic. I was sallow, constipated, irritable, sleepless, my memory was poor, I trembled and my thoughts were often confused.

My wife, in her wisdom, believed coffee was responsible for these ills and urged me to drop it. I tried many times to do so, but was in vain.

Finally I bought a package of Postum and persuaded me to try it, but she made it same as ordinary coffee and I was disgusted with the taste. I made this emphatic because I fear many others have had the same experience. She was distressed at her failure and we carefully read the directions, made it right, boiled it full 15 minutes after being commenced, with good cream and sugar. I liked it. It invigorated and seemed to nourish me.

"That was about a year ago. Now I have no headaches, am not sallow, sleeplessness and irritability are gone, my brain clear and my hand steady. I have gained 20 pounds and feel I am a new man.

I do not hesitate to give Postum due credit. Of course dropping coffee was the main thing, but I had dropped it before using chocolate, cocoa and other things to no purpose.

"Postum not only seemed to act as an invigorant, but as an article of nourishment, giving me the needed phosphates and albumens. This is no imaginary tale. It can be substantiated by my wife and her sister, who both changed to Postum and are hearty workers of about 70.

"I write this for the information and encouragement of others, and with a feeling of gratitude to the inventor of Postum.

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville." In packages. "There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

engaged in by the college this year was won and even one interstate oratorical contest was added to the long string of victories. The change has come and those in immediate touch with the affairs of the institution attribute the new order of things to the man at the head. Not alone in student activities has the change been noticeable, but in all the other college work.

**Students Abolish Hazing.**  
In a school where 1,200 young men and women come together from all parts of the state and nation, with all sorts of conceptions of life, the matter of discipline plays a very important part with the chief executive and the board. Dr. Kerr has upon this entire subject body is a marvel to everyone. He meets the students on their own ground, is interested in their every undertaking and has proven himself to be their sincere friend. He has gained their complete confidence and regard.

His earnest and eloquent appeals have not only demonstrated that he is a speaker of vast power but that his remarks are always of real help to the students. Last fall when the upper classmen attempted to initiate the incoming freshmen a hazing episode occurred, which attracted a great deal of attention and newspaper comment. After the incident closed Dr. Kerr addressed the student assembly on the folly of hazing, which resulted in a vote by the students abolishing hazing.

Dr. Kerr is a really man of action. In addition to attending to the affairs of the institution he has been acquainting himself with the various educational organizations. In the course of a year has delivered over 140 addresses before various organizations. Twenty-three years of his life have been spent in educational work, having visited the large agricultural colleges and industrial schools of the United States and made a careful study of the different systems and policies.

For 14 years he has been a college president, seven of which were spent in the Utah Agricultural college. His wide experience in education has enabled him to acquire a thorough and practical knowledge of educational methods. He is a graduate of Cornell and is the author of a treatise on the exact sciences.

**Advocates Industrial Education.**  
One thing in particular that marks him as a man specially fitted for the place as head of the Oregon Agricultural college is the fact that he is thoroughly in sympathy with the work of industrial education. It cannot be denied that a man in order to be a good teacher, educator, or college president, must be thoroughly in accord with the conditions of the people he is to educate. This Dr. Kerr is. He knows his subject, believes in it and has the faculty of imparting it.

Thus far he has proven himself to be a most capable executive, a thorough organizer, a thoughtful educator, and a skilled disciplinarian. He plans his work carefully, is cautious about his undertakings and is always sure he is in the right. He has a fine sense of humor and with the cooperation of the people of the state he will make the institution a mighty factor, not alone in educational matters, but an indispensable element in developing the latest possibilities of our commonwealth. It is his aim to place the Oregon Agricultural college on an equal basis with any institution of its kind in the United States.

**MRS. TEAGLE DIES OF BULLET WOUND**  
Belief That Estrangement and Not Illness Drove Her to Suicide.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Pasadena, Cal., July 18.—Mrs. Teagle, wife of Walter O. Teagle, Standard Oil director, of Cleveland, O., who shot herself through the brain last Wednesday in her home here, died today at the hospital, where she had lain in an unconscious condition since the shooting. Physicians in charge of the case have expressed wonder at the remarkable vitality of the frail woman, who was alive so long, her wound being of a nature that almost invariably proves fatal at once.

Mrs. Teagle, who had often threatened to commit suicide, fired the shot that caused her death during the tempestuous condition since the shooting. Physicians in charge of the case have expressed wonder at the remarkable vitality of the frail woman, who was alive so long, her wound being of a nature that almost invariably proves fatal at once.

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# EDUCATION OF THE FARMER

Relationship of Farming to Society and the State—Value and Need of Systematic Handling of the Operations.

By J. A. Bexell.

Dean of the School of Commerce, Oregon Agricultural College.  
Corvallis, Or., July 18.—It is a truism to assert that farming is the most important of all industries. This has been recognized from time immemorial and it is one of the doctrines upon which all economists agree.

The importance of farming to society at large depends upon two factors: First on the surplus the farm is made to yield over the labor and capital expended upon it, and second, on the disposition of the surplus. If a farm can support 10 persons, but is supporting only five, society or the state is the principal loser. Poor farming will ultimately cause either a scarcity of labor or a scarcity of food, because a greater number of laborers must be withdrawn from other fields of industry to produce food.

**Importance to Society.**  
Again, if a farm can support five persons in comfort, with a fair allowance of luxuries to each person, and it yields only a wretched subsistence to the family, society is the loser by the amount the farm could otherwise have exchanged for various commodities and also by the general increase in value of the farm. Thus every member of society is vitally interested in the progress of the farmer and in the rapid growth of agricultural education.

But though it is forced to yield to its maximum capacity, though labor is made most profitable and waste reduced to the minimum, society will derive little benefit from the farmer's prosperity unless the surplus reaches the consumer in good condition. A large surplus might seriously injure society if in the process of exchange the net value to the consumer is less than the labor expended in producing it. Most of the operations of transportation, manufacture and exchange. Hence the importance of a thorough understanding by the farmer as well as by the manufacturer and merchant of the laws and methods of exchange of commerce.

**Business and the Farmer.**  
The nation which has been most active and intelligent in developing not only its natural resources but also in preparing them for the world's markets and in exchanging them to advantage and profit has always been most powerful and influential. It has been the erroneous opinion until recently that the only concern of the farmer was to steer the plow and feed the cattle, and that the matter of marketing the produce should be taken care of exclusively by middlemen, such as grain dealers, stock dealers and commission merchants, and that the farmer should be satisfied with the prices fixed for him in the market. All this has changed.

The modern farmer is not only a producer but a business manager often well versed in the technicalities of business.

The secretary of agriculture in his year book for 1906, points out the remarkable prosperity of the farmer; that the export of farm produce is an excess of all other exports combined; that the farmer is accumulating capital to such an extent that he can scarcely obtain from the banks 2 per cent interest on his surplus earnings; that 1,000,000 agricultural debtors have been transformed, during the last 10 years, into the same number of surplus depositors, if not capitalists. He points out that the farmer lives better, is more well educated and more independent than the average merchant or mechanic.

**Head of Education.**  
All this is true; but that the farmer is becoming a factor to be reckoned with in the business world; true that the average farmer now is a more scientific farmer than his father; did; he understands more thoroughly the value of proper cultivation, of fertilization and of rotation of crops than his ancestors. In short, the productive phase of farming has reached a very high degree of perfection.

But what about the business side of farming? Has that phase kept pace with agriculture? No. It is a fact, on the contrary, that it is almost wholly neglected. Even so indispensable a guide to correct business habits as a simple set of accounts is almost entirely lacking on the farm. The farmer has been successful rather in spite of ignorance and neglect in this respect than because of prudent and careful management. But here also a change in the right direction is noticeable. It is generally recognized that there is a business side to every vocation. Other things being equal the farmer who conducts his operation on strict business principles is the one who forges ahead and is there.

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for the greatest benefactor to society at large.

**School of Commerce.**  
This fact has prompted a number of higher institutions of learning to incorporate business courses into their schedules of studies. This is particularly true of the land grant or agricultural colleges. Nor is Oregon behind in the procession. This new tendency in education was early recognized by the founders of the institution and a literary commerce course has been offered by the Oregon Agricultural college since 1890. The school of commerce has kept pace with the growth of the institution.

The board of regents has recognized that the institution should serve all industrial classes alike and the courses have consequently been expanded so as to meet the growing demands upon it. While the school of commerce emphasizes work preparatory to commercial pursuits, the fact that there is a business side to every vocation has been recognized by providing elementary courses in business methods especially adapted for the farmer, mechanic, professional man and even for the housekeeper. This is regarded as an exceptionally strong feature of the O. A. C. commercial work and it is expected it will make itself felt in every phase of industrial activity throughout the state.

**BACK FROM EUROPE.**

**Discoverer of Instantaneous Eye-Testing Method in the City.**

R. A. Thompson, who made himself well known throughout the northwest as a skillful optician, and at one time owned a leading establishment of Portland, has just returned from an extended visit to Europe. While absent he acquired no little fame as the originator of the method of instantaneous testing of eyesight. The results of his experiments and investigations were given wide publicity by both the American and foreign press. During most of the time Mr. Thompson was abroad he owned and operated magnificent optical parlors in Berlin. When he received a favorable opportunity to sell his establishment he traveled extensively on the continent of Europe, giving lectures upon his discovery.

Mr. Thompson returns with the intention of opening in this city a modern and model optical institution. Doubtless it will prove a revelation to the public, who have, with the influx of eastern people, become somewhat accustomed to surprises.

**LEWIS COUNTY FUND FOR A. Y. P. EXHIBIT**  
(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
Chehalis, Wash., July 18.—The Lewis county commissioners today appropriated \$3,000 for a county exhibit at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific fair at Seattle. A committee of six was named to handle the matter, composed of G. T. Castle and G. H. Miller of Centralia, O. M. Rousseau of Littell, Dan W. Bush of Chehalis, H. Otto Stone of Toledo and Leonard of Winlock. Most of the commercial bodies of the county were represented before the board, asking that the appropriation be made.

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\$30.00 Suits	\$20.00	\$20.00 Suits	\$13.35	\$12.50 Suits	\$8.35
\$27.50 Suits	\$18.35	\$18.00 Suits	\$12.00	\$10.00 Suits	\$6.65

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