

COMMONWEALTH SERVICE THE SLOGAN

OREGON FOLLOWS WISCONSIN, PUTTING "STATE TO SCHOOL"

The University as the Social Engineer of the State—This State Keeping Abreast of the Times in All Lines.

Those who have thought of a state university as mainly a school for the study of the classics are awakening in these fresh morning years of the twentieth century from a Rip Van Winkle sleep, to find the educational world looking strange to them. "The state at school" is the phrase coined by a noted magazine writer to describe the University of Wisconsin, and this phrase suggests the dominant ideal in the state university today. Whenever training is possible, the lack of training means social waste. This is why the states are employing the agency of their state universities to furnish to all classes such training as they can receive. Wisconsin has as many students scattered through the state, on farms, in factories and workshops, stores and offices, as on the university campus. These pursue, at nominal cost, courses which contribute directly to fit them for higher grades of work, and which, without the aid of the university's correspondence department, they could either not procure at all, or could procure only at a very large aggregate expense. All of the other states supporting state universities are following Wisconsin's lead in this matter.

University as Social Engineer.
The commonwealth service ideal involves much more, however, than merely ministering to the needs of individuals here and there. It means leadership in effecting improvements in general social conditions through a higher type of municipal government, social surveys, courses of lectures given to large groups of persons on economic, social, historical, literary and scientific subjects by university professors in local study centers like schools and libraries. It involves, also suggestions for scientific surveys along various lines of state conservation and the supplying, mainly through its graduate school, of experts to serve state boards and commissions, like the railroad commission, tax commission, and the bureau of comparative legislation—in short, in every field where modern training counts toward efficiency, productiveness and the elevation of social life.

Oregon Abreast of the Times.
Our own university has already an enviable record of service through its correspondence school, as letters from men in mining camps and logging camps, as well as from men and women in the more usual walks of life, abundantly attest. It is the purpose of the administration to push forward this phase of the work by making the facilities more nearly adequate to the demands upon them.

Field Sociology.
It is also the expectation of the department of sociology to develop the work already begun in field sociology—making social surveys of type communities, analyzing community needs and the forces which might be utilized in improving conditions, co-ordinating toward the end the most helpful lines of social activity.

The University Advisory Bureau.
In line with these activities is the recent organization at the university of "The University Advisory Bureau," whose aim is to make all extension work of utmost value to the state. The bureau consists of those members of the faculty whose special training and scientific interest best fit them to advise local communities along such lines of municipal organization water and lighting supplies, ventilation and illumination, roads and pavements, parks, architectural problems, power and irrigation problems, etc.

It is not the purpose of this bureau in any manner to compete with established concerns in carrying out the details of any improvement project, but rather to act only in a more general advisory capacity, supplying—as it can readily do from the departments—the preliminary information which may enable any community to take the best and safest final action.

The School of Sanitary Science.
In accordance with suggestions by members of the Oregon medical fraternity, there is under organization at the university what may be called a school of sanitary science. This will make still more effective the work of the advisory bureau, and help the state, it is hoped, to solve the pressing problems of health through scientifically purified water supplies and

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scientifically constructed sewage systems, as also to render sanitary the water-sheds and to make the streams wholesome. The theory is that if the state shall furnish just a few more "ounces of prevention," the heavy tax upon society which is involved in the cost of the "pounds of cure," and in the loss of life through failure to cure will be in large measure remitted. This was the contention of noted physicians who spoke at the recent commonwealth conference held at the university.—U. of O. Bulletin.

Stork to Visit Palace.

London, Jan. 27.—For the first time in fifty-four years, the stork is hovering over Buckingham Palace. In preparation for the interesting event, Queen Mary has had the long-disused royal nurseries thoroughly refitted and brought up to date. It is known that their majesties are hoping that the new arrival may be a girl, for, of their six children, Princess Mary, who is now thirteen, is the only girl. Prince John, the youngest child, was born six years ago.

Not since 1857, when Princess Henry of Battenburg, the youngest of Queen Victoria's children, was born, has the stork visited Buckingham Palace.

Examine Hen's Toenails.

Ithaca, N. Y., Jan. 27.—To discover whether a hen is a prolific and industrious egg-producer, examine her toenails. This is the advice of Prof. J. E. Rice, who occupies the chair of scientific poultry raising at Cornell

University agricultural school. Short toenails in a hen, says the professor, come from continuous scratching for food, and a chicken that does a lot of scratching is sure to be industrious and to produce many eggs.

Woman's Mission Jubilee.

Louisville, Ky., Jan. 27.—Celebrating the formation of the first women's missionary society half a century ago, a golden jubilee meeting was commenced here today. Sessions will be held this evening and tomorrow and will be addressed by Mrs. Helen Barrett Montgomery of Rochester, N. Y., and other women prominently identified with mission work.

Golden Wedding Date.

New York, Jan. 27.—A week from next Tuesday, February 7, has been set as the wedding date for Miss Vivian Gould, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Gould, to Lord Decres. A number of distinguished relatives and friends of the bridegroom sailed today to attend the wedding, according to reports from London.

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